

THE NONCONFORMIST.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIX.—NEW SERIES, No. 720.]

LONDON : WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1859.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 6d.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.

Patron, H.R.H. the PRINCE CONSORT.

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SPLENDID SERIES of DISSOLVING VIEWS.—Scenes in ITALY, FRANCE, AUSTRIA, on the RHINE, &c.

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Mr. SIMS REEVES' GRAND CONCERT, on SATURDAY NEXT, Aug. 20. Mr. Reeves will Sing "Good bye, Sweetheart," "Sound an Alarm," "Come into the Garden, Maud," &c. &c.

Further particulars will be duly announced.

JOHN B. GOUGH will deliver an ORATION in EXETER HALL, on MONDAY, August 29th, 1859.

Chair will be taken at Eight o'clock.

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CONTRIBUTIONS in aid of the current expenses, as well as for the enlargement of the present Building to adapt it for 400 Children, will be gratefully received.

JOSEPH SOUL, Secretary.

Offices, 32, Ludgate-hill, E.C.

Annual Subscription, for one vote, 10s. 6d.; two votes, 11. 1s. Life Donation, for one vote, 1l. 5s.; for two votes, 10s. 10s.; and in the same proportion for a larger sum.

C. R. NELSON, PUBLISHER and GENERAL ADVERTISEMENT CONTRACTOR, 25, BOUVERIE-STREET, FLEET-STREET, LONDON, begs to inform his Friends and the Public that his prompt and careful attention on the most reasonable terms will be given to any order entrusted to him.

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Apply to D. Kingsland, North End, Croydon.

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MISS PRICE, NORTH-TERRACE, BISHOP'S STORTFORD, HERTS, has a VACANCY in her Establishment for a YOUNG LADY as GOVERNESS PUPIL.

Terms and references on application.

MILL-HILL SCHOOL—OLD SCHOLARS' MORTGAGE REDEMPTION FUND.

At the recent Anniversary Meeting at Mill-hill a plan was proposed for raising a Fund among the Old Scholars for payment of the Mortgage still existing on the School and Estate. All who feel an interest in this most desirable object are requested to send their names and addresses to EDWARD B. DAWSON, Esq., Aldcliffe Hall, Lancaster, who will furnish full particulars.

Lancaster, July, 1859.

SPRING-HILL COLLEGE, MOSELEY, near BIRMINGHAM.

The Committee of this Institution announce to the public that the WINTER SESSION will commence September 16th.

The Committee have determined that in addition to the full academic course, extending over six years, and comprising the Latin and Greek, Hebrew, and Syriac languages, Exegetical and Dogmatic Theology, with Philosophy, Mathematics, Homiletics and Ecclesiastical History, they will admit to a shorter course, mainly Theological, of three years, persons who on account of their age and want of early education are ineligible to the longer and more scholarly curriculum.

Application for admission to be made as soon as convenient, before August 24th, and directed either to the Secretary, Ludgate-hill, Birmingham, or to the Rev. J. A. James.

The Committee have made provision also for the admission of lay students, who will partake of all the literary, philosophical, and mathematical advantages of the College, and will have the opportunity of graduating at the London University. Each Student will be accommodated with a separate study and dormitory.

JOHN GRAHAM, Hon. Sec.

HYDROPATHIC ESTABLISHMENT, MATLOCK BANK, near MATLOCK-BRIDGE, DERBYSHIRE, sixteen miles from Derby. This Establishment, closed in February last in consequence of the overwhelming number of patients (600 in 1857, 700 in 1858), will be REOPENED by Mr. and Mrs. Smedley, 28th May, with additional assistance and improved premises, Turkish Bath, &c. Terms, 6s. per day; 5s. per day, bed out. No fees. Persons desirous of coming to the Establishment should previously send for a prospectus with more particulars of terms, &c. Smedley's PRACTICAL HYDROPATHY, 516 pages large crown 8vo, handsomely bound, with Plans of Baths and 100 Anatomical Cuts.—Price 2s. 6d., of all Booksellers.

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Further particulars, with the Prospects, will be forwarded on application, by letter, to Dr. Horner, Redcar, Yorkshire.

In the press, and soon to be published, a Pamphlet "On the Philosophy of Bathing, on the Use of Sea Water and Sea Air in Hydropathic Treatment of Disease."

BEST COALS, 23s.—GAMMAN, SON, and CARTER solicit orders for the best Hetton's, Stewart's, or Lambton's Wallsend Coals, screened, at 23s.; or Good Scconds at 21s. 6d. per ton, for cash. Good Inland, 20s.

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THE LONDON INVESTMENT COMPANY
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Established 1857.

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LOANS are advanced on personal security, and the deposit of a Life Policy.

Prompt settlement of claims, entire freedom of the assured from responsibility, and the guarantee of a capital of 1,000,000. are amongst the distinctive features of the Company.

The premiums of 1858 on New Insurances, Life and Fire, exceeded those of 1857 by upwards of 125 per cent. in addition to the business of the British Empire Fire, and the British Amicable Life Offices, which has been transferred to the General.

A Liberal Commission is allowed to Solicitors, Auctioneers and Surveyors.

THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY,
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Chairman in Liverpool—CHARLES TURNER, Esq.

Chairman of London Board—SAMUEL BAKER, Esq.

The ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY is one of the largest Fire Offices in the kingdom.

At the Annual Meeting of the 5th instant the following highly satisfactory results were shown:—

FIRE DEPARTMENT.

The most gratifying proof of the expansion of the business is exhibited in the one following fact—that the increase alone of the last three years exceeds the entire business of some of the existing and of many of the recently defunct fire insurance companies of this kingdom.

The premiums for the year 1858 being £130,060

While the premiums for the year 1857 are £96,118

Showing an actual increase of £33,948

or upwards of 50 per cent. in three years.

The recent returns of duty made by Government for this latter year (1858) again show the "Royal" as more than maintaining the ratio of its increase as stated in former years. Only one among the London Insurance Offices exhibits an advance to the extent of one-half the increase of the Company, while all the others respectively fall far short of the moiety of its advance.

LIFE DEPARTMENT.

The amount of new Life Premiums received this year is by far the largest received in any similar period since the commencement of the business, and must far exceed the average amount received by the most successful offices in the kingdom. The number of Policies issued in the year was 832, the sum assured £387,752 £s. d., and the premium £12,354 £s. d. These figures show a very rapid extension of business during the last ten years. Thus:—

No. of Policies.	Sum Assured.	New Premiums.
1848 .. 98 ..	£48,764 17 0 ..	£1,380 9 1
1850 .. 100 ..	95,680 9 11 ..	2,627 4 7
1852 .. 433 ..	181,504 10 6 ..	5,828 5 10
1854 .. 408 ..	181,848 13 4 ..	4,694 16 0
1856 .. 703 ..	297,580 16 8 ..	8,850 3 11
1858 .. 832 ..	387,752 6 8 ..	12,354 3 4

The remarkable increase in the business of the last four years is mainly consequent upon the large bonus declared in 1856, which amounted to no less than £2 per cent. per annum on the sums assured, and averaged 80 per cent. on the premiums paid.

PERCY M. DOVE, Manager and Actuary.

JOHN R. JOHNSTON, Secretary to the London Board.

BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

32, NEW BRIDGE-STREET, LONDON, E.C.

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SOLICITORS.

Messrs. Watson and Sons, 12, Bouvierie-street, Fleet-street.

SURVEYOR.

Thomas Turner, Esq., 9, Walbrook.

SURGEON.

John Mann, Esq., 4, Charterhouse-square.

This Company is formed on the purely mutual principle, here being no proprietary distinct from the members to absorb the whole or any portion of the profits.

The superiority of the Mutual Principle in Life Assurance is shown by the success attained by Societies so formed; by many Proprietary Companies having consented to give a portion of their profits to the assured—"thus affording them NEARLY ALL the advantages of a Mutual Assurance Office." But in the BRITISH EMPIRE MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY, not only NEARLY ALL, but ALL such advantages belong to the assured. The management of the Company is under their sole control, and the whole of the profits are theirs—while the assured are entirely free from responsibility, inasmuch as each policy limits the claim under it to the funds of the Company exclusively.

In the year 1858, this Company issued 981 new policies, assuring £20,300., and realising new premiums to the amount of 7,026. The annual income is £8,386., and the Accumulated Fund (belonging to the members) increased during that year 27,807., and now amounts to 151,307. The number of members is nearly 8,000.

The members have received, in respect of the profits for the three years ending 31st December, 1857, a Bonus equal to 27½ per cent. of the premiums paid by them. This was not a reversionary bonus, to be received only at the death of the party assured, but an immediate payment in cash.

Persons insuring during the present year will become entitled to share in the bonus to be declared up to 31st December, 1868.

May, 1859 JAMES INGLIS, Secretary.

NEW MODE OF ACQUIRING WEALTH.

See the Prospectus of

THE PUBLIC LIFE ASSURANCE COMPANY.

47, CHARING-CROSS, LONDON, which

describes the way to obtain

10,000. CONSOLES payable during life; or

5,000. CONSOLES payable at death,

for a Premium of One Guinea. No other charge nor liability.

No Medical Examination. No references to friends required.

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** Agents wanted throughout the United Kingdom.

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SUMS from 10. to 300. ADVANCED two or three days after application, for two years, one year, or six months (repayable by weekly, monthly, or quarterly instalments); and good Bills Discounted. Charge moderate, and strict confidence observed.

LONDON and PROVINCIAL LOAN COMPANY; Office, 66, Goswell-road, London, Open daily from Nine till Six.

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For specimens, &c., Hadlow, Engraver, Brighton.

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and TABLE CUTLERY.

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Fiddle Double Kings's Lily Pattern. Thread. Pattern. Pattern

£ s. d. £ s. d. £ s. d. £ s. d.

12 Table Forks, best quality 1 16 0 2 14 0 3 0 0 3 12 0

12 Table Spoons do. 1 16 0 2 14 0 3 0 0 3 12 0

12 Dessert Forks do. 1 7 0 2 0 0 2 4 0 2 14 0

12 Dessert Spoons do. 0 16 0 1 4 0 1 7 0 1 16 0

2 Sauces Ladies do. 0 8 0 0 10 0 0 11 0 0 13 0

1 Gravy Spoon do. 0 7 0 0 10 0 6 0 11 0 0 13 0

4 Salt Spoons (gilt bowls) 0 6 8 0 10 0 0 12 0 0 14 0

1 Mustard Spoon do. 0 1 8 0 2 6 0 3 0 0 3 6

1 Pair Sugar Tong 0 3 6 0 5 6 0 6 0 0 7 0

1 Pr. Fish Carvers do. 1 0 0 1 10 0 1 14 0 1 18 0

1 Butter Knife do. 0 3 0 0 5 0 0 6 0 0 7 0

1 Soup Ladle do. 0 12 0 0 16 0 0 17 6 1 0 0 0

6 Egg Spoons (gilt) do. 0 10 0 0 15 0 0 18 0 1 10 0

Complete service 10 13 10 15 16 6 17 13 6 21 4 6

Any article can be had separately at the same Prices.

One Set of 4 Corner Dishes (forming 8 Dishes), £1. 8s. ; One

Set of 4 Dish Covers—viz., one 20 inch, one 18 inch, and two

14 inch, 10d. 10s.; Cruet Frame, 4 Glass, 24s.; Full-Size Tea

and Coffee Service, 9s. 10s. A Costly Book of Engravings, with

prices attached, sent per post on receipt of twelve Stamps.

Ordinary Medium Best

Quality. Quality. Quality.

Two Dozen Full-Size Table Knives, Ivory Handles 2 4 0 3 6 0 4 12 0

14 Doz. Full-Size Cheese ditto 1 4 0 1 14 6 2 11 0

One Pair Regular Meat Carvers 0 7 6 0 11 0 0 15 6

One Pair Extra-Sized ditto 0 8 6 0 12 0 0 16 6

One Pair Poultry Carvers 0 7 6 0 11 0 0 15 6

One Steel or Sharpening 0 3 0 0 4 0 0 6 0

Complete Service 4 16 0 6 18 6 9 16 6

Messrs. Mappin's Table Knives still maintain their unrivalled superiority; all their blades, being their own Sheffield manufacture, are of the very first quality, with secure Ivory Handles, which do not come loose in hot water; and the difference in price is occasioned solely by the superior quality and thickness of the Ivory Handles.

THE Nonconformist.

"THE DISSIDENCE OF DISSENT AND THE PROTESTANTISM OF THE PROTESTANT RELIGION."

VOL. XIX.—NEW SERIES, No. 720.]

LONDON : WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1859.

PRICE { UNSTAMPED .. 5d.
STAMPED 6d.

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willing enough to contribute in fair proportion towards the maintenance of the Christian institutions from which they derive advantage. Nobody wishes to hinder them—but it is quite certain that if this were their only object, it is attainable without the aid of law. The rate is wanted in order to reach the unwilling—to give to the majority the power of coercing the minority. Viewed in the light of religious liberty, it matters nothing whether the minority be Churchmen or Dissenters. What we are asked to sanction—what we are charged with intolerance for refusing to sanction—is an arrangement by which, where all parties are alike Churchmen, the majority shall be able to use the screw of Imperial law, to squeeze contributions from the minority. In 95 out of 100 parishes throughout the Kingdom, we are told, the system of rating is preferred—that is, in 95 out of 100 parishes, the majority wish to bring the law to bear in forcing pecuniary support for the Church out of the pockets of the minority. Ought they to be allowed to do so? Ought we, as advocates of religious freedom, to give even a tacit consent to this much-coveted "privilege"?

On three grounds we refuse to acquiesce in any compromise of the Church-rate system, which would leave this power in the hands of Churchmen, even where it is to be exercised only upon their fellow-Churchmen—on that of justice, on that of policy, and on that of religion.

1. Let us look at the justice of the case! They who accuse the Liberation Society of intolerance for not being content with the exemption of Dissenters from Church-rates usually admit that something is to be said in favour of relaxing the law to this extent. True, it is only of late that they have conceded even thus much—but by assenting to a scheme of exemption, they do concede it. But it seems to be forgotten that the essence of the injustice in the case of Dissenters is the being compelled by law to support religious ministrations of which they disapprove—for this is an evil to which it is desired that not a few Churchmen should continue to be liable. Many an Evangelical feels it to be a serious grievance to be obliged to contribute towards the semi-papistical fancies of a Tractarian, and many a Tractarian abominates the Calvinistic teachings of an Evangelical. Individual cases may everywhere be found in which the law operates even upon members of the Church of England as harshly as upon Dissenters. If it be due to justice to grant relief to the latter, why not to the former? Surely conscience ought to be respected in the one case as much as in the other. The character of a law, considered in the light of justice, is not changed, or even modified, by numbers, although the expediency of it may be. If it be wrong to coerce an unwilling class in respect of religion, it is wrong also to coerce an unwilling individual. If it be proper to take from the majority the legal power of tyrannising over a large minority, it is right also to take from it the power of tyrannising over a minority of one. Justice, therefore, requires that what we insist upon for ourselves, we should ask for others.

2. Policy demands all that the Liberation Society claims—total abolition in preference to partial exemption. Law is a weapon which may fitly be regarded as public property to be wielded for public purposes. No section of the people are entitled to claim the use of it for their special ends. Five hundred or five thousand men may agree among themselves that an object in which they may be deeply interested is highly desirable—but it does not therefore follow that, being agreed, they may be safely entrusted with the sword of the State for prosecuting that object. The majesty of law is compromised when it ceases to be national. The surest way of bringing it into contempt would be to hire it out, as it were, to religious party. And, be it borne in mind, this is precisely what the sticklers for Church-rates now demand. They want to restrict a legal power which is at present national within the limits of a sect—or, more correctly speaking, being driven to give up all reasonable pretence

for bringing law to bear upon all without distinction, they insist upon retaining the privilege of bringing it to bear upon the members of their own Church. We take it to be contrary to sound policy to listen to any such claim. It is degrading law into a tool of a denomination—and if given to Churchmen to be used only against Churchmen, might just as well be given to Methodists to be used against Methodists, or to Mormonites to be used against Mormonites.

3. We object, on the ground of religion, to leaving in any hands a shred of compulsory power for the maintenance of Christian institutions. We contend that it is contrary to the genius of the Gospel—misrepresents it to those who believe it not—paralyses the spirit of zeal, charity, and brotherly kindness—sows discord among brethren—and hinders the development of virtues which Christianity aims to promote.

These are our main motives—these we know to be the main motives of the active friends of the Liberation Society—in not accepting exemption from Church-rates, and in demanding entire abolition. This is our intolerance. The pro-rate party accuse us of violating our own first principles in hindering them from using the law, if they like it, to maintain their religious institutions. Their complaint is only to be paralleled by that of the American slave-driver—"A pretty land of liberty this, where a man mayn't wallop his own nigger!"

CHURCH-RATE RECORD.

CHURCH-RATES AND THE LANDLORDS.—One of the stock objections to the abolition of Church-rates is, that it would put between three and four hundred thousand pounds a-year into the pockets of the landlords, inasmuch as they would raise their rents to the amount of the rate, and so leave their tenants, in fact, burdened as before. But if this will be so, how is it that the process has not begun already, when Church-rates have been already abolished to the extent of almost one-half? Another new Church-rate return shows that the whole rateable annual value of the property in England and Wales, on which these rates are not levied, is no less than 21,014,382^l. In the diocese of London, it is 4,157,516^l. In that of Manchester, 2,711,827^l. Chester, 2,035,795^l. Ripon, 1,611,563^l. Winchester, 1,508,524^l. Worcester, 1,453,900^l. Lichfield, 1,328,889^l. Now will the "Committee of Laymen" be good enough to bring evidence of the fact, that in all these localities the landlord-class are so much richer now than they were when the Church-rate was levied—and especially that the tenants pay higher rents than they then did? If they cannot do that, they ought to drop an argument which has not hitherto been, and is not likely to be, sustained by facts.—*The Liberator*.

CHURCH-RATES AT WEYMOUTH.—A successful resistance to a Church-rate has been made in the parish of Weymouth, which forms a portion of the ancient parish of Wyke Regis. The proceedings at the vestry meeting held on Thursday, the 4th inst., were very brief. A rate of 2d. in the pound was proposed, and an amendment that no rate be granted was put and carried by show of hands. A poll was then demanded on behalf of the rate, and was fixed for the following Monday. At the close of the poll the result stood—for the rate, 18 ; against, 55. These numbers, though not large, were sufficient to give ample proof of the sentiments of the rate-payers. The majority, however, would have been larger but for the refusal of the rector to receive the votes of the small tenants. Some of those who voted against the rate did so at considerable risk, and displayed much courage and consistency. A strong opposition had been anticipated in the parish of Melcombe Regis, but here the anti-Church-rate party are unfortunately deficient in leaders, and the gentleman who bore the brunt last year being unavoidably absent, a rate of 2½d. in the pound was granted without any contest. It remains to be seen, however, what will be done in the case of those who refused to pay the rate last year, and who will make the same stand with regard to the present rate.

CHURCH-RATES AT DORKING.—A vestry-meeting, to pass the churchwardens' accounts, and to make a new Church-rate, was held at Dorking on Friday last, the Rev. W. H. Joyce, the vicar, in the chair. Objection was taken at the commencement of the proceedings that the churchwardens had not accounted to the vestry within the period prescribed

Ecclesiastical Affairs.

A NOVEL PHASE OF INTOLERANCE.

"CURSES," they say, "like chickens, come home to roost." Charges of intolerance made against the abettors of compulsory methods of supporting Christian ordinances recoil on the heads of those who make them. The Liberation Society, whose professed object is best summarised by the phrase "religious equality," is accused of violating the first principles of religious freedom. The extent to which it has carried its opposition to Church-rates shows how little it understands, or, at any rate, practically appreciates, its own aims. With liberty for ever on its lips, tyranny is in its heart. Continually clamouring to be let alone, it pertinaciously refuses to let others alone. On behalf of those whose claims it advocates, it asks what it refuses to grant. Wonderful are its inconsistencies!

Such is, in general terms, the indictment presented by the beaten Pro-rate party against the Liberation Society. It demands for Dissenters, we are told, freedom from interference in the management of their spiritual affairs. It will allow no intruder into the sacred domains of conscience—not even the State. It objects to being obliged to join in modes of supporting Christian teaching and worship which it regards as improper. Well, when exemption is offered to Dissenters, the Society declines to accept it. Although "in ninety-five out of every hundred parishes," a rate is preferred to a voluntary subscription, the apostles of religious liberty, forsooth, declare that it shall not be had. In fact, they are not content with enjoying freedom for their own opinions—they insist upon foisting those opinions upon others. They dictate their methods to those who have no taste for them—and say, not merely, "We will have no rate," but "You shall have no rate," "nobody shall have a rate!" What is this but downright intolerance? If Churchmen should not interfere with Dissenters, why should Dissenters interfere with Churchmen?

Whether this style of recrimination grows out of a want of reflection, or whether it is due to a disingenuous mind, we will not pretend to decide. As, however, it will possess some authority with many who attach more value to words than to sense, we propose to meet the charge as if it were made in perfect good faith. The question is, "Why people who are willing, and even prefer, to tax themselves for religious purposes, should be prevented from doing so?" We will endeavour to show why—and our reasons, we think, when fairly examined, will be found to involve no violation of religious liberty, but the contrary.

We beg, then, in the outset, to clear the question of every shade of ambiguity. What is it that these people desire to retain? Not liberty to devote a certain proportion of their income to certain special religious purposes—nobody wishes to curtail that liberty. This, however, is not enough. The advocates of the Church-rate system know full well that they can "tax themselves" as often as, and for whatever objects, they please. What they want is authority to tax others. The majority of Churchmen are

by law. Mr. C. Rose moved "that last year's estimate, the rate-book, and the minutes of the vestry in July, 1858, be laid before the vestry." The resolution being carried, these documents were laid on the table. The churchwardens' accounts were then produced, and, after undergoing a scrutiny, and some of the items being made the subject of severe strictures, were passed. Mr. Churchwarden Latter then read the estimate for the present year, whereupon, without discussion, Mr. Saubergue, an ex-churchwarden, moved a rate of twopence per pound. Mr. Rose objected to the proposition for a rate till the estimate had been discussed and disposed of. The Rev. J. O. Whitehouse moved "That all the items not absolutely required by law be expunged." The motion was seconded by Mr. H. Cole; and the Chairman refusing to put it in this shape, objection was taken to the items in detail, but ultimately they were all carried. Mr. Higgins proposed "That the balance in hand and available of last year's rate be expended before a new rate be made." This amendment being duly seconded, it was put to the vestry, but lost by a slight majority. Mr. C. Rose thereupon demanded a poll, which the vicar fixed to take place on that and the following day. The Chairman then adjourned the vestry till Monday, on which day he declared the amendment lost. The Rev. J. O. Whitehouse then moved, "That the churchwardens be requested to use means to obtain, by voluntary contributions, the amount estimated to be requisite for the present year." This amendment was duly seconded; but the Chairman refusing to put it to the vestry, Mr. Whitehouse protested. Mr. Rose then moved, "That no rate be granted;" and the Chairman again refusing, Mr. Rose also protested. The rate was then put, and, being carried, a poll was demanded. The opponents of the rate, although without the slightest hope of success at the poll, have not a doubt as to the invalidity of the rate.

CHURCH-RATES AT BARNET.—At a recent vestry meeting the proposal of a 2d. rate was met by an amendment, moved by Mr. B. Clayton, and seconded by Mr. Peak (an Episcopalian), that the meeting adjourn until certain accounts were laid before the vestry. The amendment was carried by a considerable majority. A poll was demanded, which took place on Wednesday, with the following result:—

For the Church-rate	... 48
Against	... 96
Majority against the rate	... —48

PERSECUTION OF PROTESTANT CHRISTIANS IN SYRIA.

On Thursday a Deputation, headed by Viscount Stratford de Redcliffe and the Hon. F. H. W. G. Calthorpe, M.P., waited upon Lord John Russell at the Foreign-office in reference to the continued persecution of native Protestants at the hands of the local authorities in certain parts of Asiatic Turkey. The Deputation was convened by the Evangelical Alliance, but included also representatives of several of the leading religious Societies.

Lord STRATFORD DE REDCLIFFE explained the character and objects of the Deputation, his own deep interest in the subject. In the course of the subsequent conversation, the noble lord took occasion to state his conviction that the Religious Liberty Firman of 1856 was honestly acted upon by the Turkish Government. The Porte was, however, weak in some of the distant provinces of the empire, and the difficulties which formed the subject of complaint on the present occasion were the result of barbarity, superstition, or corruption on the part of local authorities. To call such authorities to account would undoubtedly be a gain to the cause of religious liberty, and it certainly behoved all who concurred in the Peace Settlement of 1856 to see to it that its stipulations were effectually carried out.

The Rev. JAMES DAVIS, one of the Secretaries of the Evangelical Alliance, then stated the particulars of the case which the Deputation wished to bring under the notice of the noble Foreign Secretary.

The Protestant Mission-field of Asia Minor had (he observed) for thirty years past been chiefly occupied by missionaries from America. Their labours had been attended with great success, their converts being drawn chiefly from among the members of the nominally Christian sects. In all the trials and persecutions to which they had been exposed they had, notwithstanding their American connexions, been protected by the Consular officers of the British Government. Lately, however, the consuls had been precluded from exercising this protective function. In February last a letter was received from the Rev. W. W. Eddy, Missionary of the American Board of Missions, dated December 18th, 1858, narrating the frightful persecutions to which the Protestant Christians in Syria were subject, and appealing to the Evangelical Alliance for aid. This letter was sent by their Chairman, Sir O. E. Eardley, Bart., to the Earl of Malmsbury, then Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, who promptly replied, stating that he would direct her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople to inquire into the grievance complained of, and remonstrate, if necessary, with the Porte upon the subject. On the 23rd March, 1859, a further communication from the Foreign-office was received, stating that her Majesty's Ambassador at Constantinople had remonstrated strongly with the Porte, on the subject of the persecution to which Protestant Christians are subjected in Syria, and that, in consequence, Vizierial letters had been addressed to the Pashas of Sidon and Damascus, ordering them to afford the same protection and justice to the Sultan's Protestant subjects as to those of other religious persuasions. By a letter from the Rev. W. W. Eddy, dated May 2, 1859, coupled with a statement from Mr. Ford, it appeared that the Vizierial letters had been totally disregarded, and fresh outrages of a very brutal character have been inflicted on the native Protestants. Mr. Davis entered at some length into particulars (narrated by Mr. Eddy) of the persecutions

suffered by several native Protestants at Cana at the instigation of members of other Christian sects. The Governor of that town, Ameen Beg Is-Shahail—a Mohammedan of the Persian sect—levied an unjust contribution of 300 piastres upon them. Having sent a respectful message inquiring the cause of the demand, the Governor caused the messenger to be beaten and imprisoned. Two other Protestants were afterwards, on false pretences, seized, imprisoned, and severely maltreated. They escaped to Beyrouth, with a view to lay their complaint before the Pasha. The British Consul at that place, Mr. Moore, on being made acquainted with the facts, manifested a warm interest on behalf of the oppressed Protestants, and a desire to assist them; but, on demanding justice, he was met by so disrespectful and decided a repulse, that he felt himself completely cut off from the power of proceeding further, it being plain that the Pasha had no intention of regarding the orders he had received. Mr. Eddy draws his letter to a close, with an earnest appeal for the exercise of British influence in the matter.

Mr. Davis concluded his *résumé* by calling attention to the fact, that the appeal of these American missionaries was directed to Britain.

Lord JOHN RUSSELL expressed the gratification he felt at the presence of one who had done so much in the cause of religious liberty in Turkey as Lord Stratford de Redcliffe. The noble lord then stated that his attention had been called to the subject, and he had just received a letter (of which he read extracts) from Sir Henry Bulwer, our Ambassador at Constantinople. This letter enclosed a copy of a Vizierial letter, couched in very distinct terms, requiring justice to be done to native Protestants. It would appear from a comparison of dates that this letter had been issued since the outrages described by Mr. Eddy, and as a result of subsequent representations to the Porte. He (Lord John Russell) would, however, again call the attention of the Ambassador to the matter, and urge him to obtain from the Turkish Government a promise that the grievances should be redressed, or the officers perpetrating them removed.

The Deputation then retired.

FOREIGN ECCLESIASTICAL INTELLIGENCE.

EDUCATION IN TURKEY.—According to a report made to the Minister of Public Instruction, there are now in Turkey 10,897 schools for Mussulmans, which are frequented by 230,545 boys and 121,259 girls, and superintended by 11,226 teachers. There are also 2,249 schools for Christians, receiving 105,361 boys and 7,806 girls, with 2,259 teachers.

RELIGIOUS FREEDOM IN LOMBARDY.—The *Univers* resumes its lamentations on the subject of the additional field afforded to Protestant propagandists by the annexation of Lombardy to Piedmont, and denounces the Ratazzi Cabinet for the liberty conceded to the agents of heresy. Their professed respect for liberty of conscience, it says, ought to have taught them to afford protection to consciences against those who, by seductions and falsehoods, spread the poison of error. Already, it declares, letters from Geneva announce that the sects of England and Switzerland are opening the campaign, that the Evangelical Society of Geneva has just sent off to Lombardy a legion of missionaries and hawkers, and that the British and Foreign Bible Society has despatched several thousand falsified Bibles and New Testaments to Milan, to be thence spread by agents through the provinces of Lombardy.

THE INDIAN GOVERNMENT AND THE NATIVE CHRISTIANS.—While the professed policy of the Government in religious matters remains what it was, its conduct towards native Christians has undergone a happy change. I do not think they have at present any reason to complain. Considering their numbers, I believe there are more of them in the various departments of the public service than any other class in the community. At present there are, I believe, above 500 native Christians at Allahabad, the new capital of the North-West Provinces; and of these, I suppose, three-fourths, if not four-fifths, of the heads of families are in the public service. Some of the old officials are as opposed as ever to the employment of native Christians, but others are disposed to give them a fair trial. The Government, I believe, gives no orders on the subject, but leaves its servants to act as they deem best.—*Letter from the Rev. J. Kennedy, of Benares, in the News of the Churches.*

A CHAPEL, lately occupied by a congregation of Independents, in Wilson-street, Drury-lane, at the back of St. Martin's Hall, has been purchased for £1,600., by a Catholic gentleman, and presented by him to the diocese. It is speedily to be opened under the patronage of our Lady of Dolours and St. Charles Borromeo.—*Weekly Register.*

THE BIBLE FOR SUNDAY SCHOLARS.—It appears from statistics that half the Sunday scholars in England who can read have not a copy of the Holy Scriptures. The British and Foreign Bible Society have determined to make an effort to meet this emergency, and announce the publication of a new edition of the tenpenny Bible in flexible binding, a copy of which may be secured by Sunday scholars who place 10d. in the hands of the secretary or Bible steward of their respective schools before the 20th of next month.

DISSENTERS IN CONNEXION WITH OUR CIVIC OFFICERS.—Dissenters first separated from the Church of England in the year 1571. In the year 1754 a great contest was carried on in the city of London on their eligibility to, or exception from, serving public offices, occasioned by two of their body being nominated sheriffs, when they pleaded the Test Act as an exemption; and, refusing to serve, actions were commenced against them by the

Common Council, and decided in the Court of King's Bench in their favour, 1762. Petition against subscription to the Test and Corporation Acts, which is refused, 1787. In the year 1851, the three Lord Mayors of London, York, and Dublin, were Dissenters, and the then Provost of Edinburgh, if not a Dissenter, was a thorough Liberal, and presided at several Dissenting associations; and now our present much-esteemed and beloved Lord Mayor is a Dissenter.—*City Press.*

THE DEANERY OF RIPON.—Lord Palmerston has conferred the Deanery of Ripon, rendered vacant by the death of the Hon. and Rev'd Dr. Erskine, upon the Rev. Thomas Garnier, B.C.L., rector of Trinity Church, Marylebone. He was for many years chaplain to the House of Commons, and ceased to hold that office when Mr. Shaw Lefevre, the Speaker (now Viscount Eversley), was elevated to the peerage. He is an ardent supporter of the Evangelical section of the Church. The Rectory of Trinity, which has thus become vacant by Mr. Garnier's elevation, is worth £1,030. a-year, and is in the gift of the Crown. The Rev. William Cadman, rector of St. George the Martyr, Southwark, will succeed the Rev. T. Garnier in Marylebone.

A NEW CHURCH MOVEMENT.—The Bishop of Exeter has sanctioned a plan proposed to him for organising a community of women desirous of devoting themselves exclusively to works of piety and charity. They are to be called "Sisters of Charity," or "Deaconesses." No perpetual vows are to be taken. A period of probation will have to be passed, during which it will be allowable to leave at any time. After this, an engagement to the society for a period not exceeding five years will be made, renewable at the expiration of that term. The new society "will be cradled in the vicarage of Buckland Monachorum, near Plymouth, till its growth has enabled it to obtain and occupy suitable premises of its own."

THE IRISH BISHOPS AND NATIONAL EDUCATION.—It is announced that the resolutions of the Roman Catholic prelates, at their recent synod in Ireland, are to be transmitted to the Chief Secretary for Ireland, and that until Mr. Cardwell's reply is received the public will be kept in partial ignorance of the complete results of the four days' episcopal deliberations. War to the knife is said to have been declared against the national schools. As one of the latest ultramontane objections against the national system of education in Ireland—the *Nation* complains that the pupils are taught to describe themselves as "English" children! "The schools which taught each Irish youth to bless God for making him a happy English child, would soon achieve that millennium of British history, Ireland denationalised!"

WESLEYAN METHODIST CONFERENCE.—At the meeting on Saturday week the Rev. W. B. Boyce was appointed to the Mission House, and to be under the direction of the missionary secretaries. The report of the Sabbath Committee was read, and a conversation took place, in which several ministers took part; and the following resolution was passed unanimously:—

That the Conference rejoices in the knowledge that generally throughout the kingdom, and particularly in some of our large towns, the standard of public feeling relative to the religious observance of the Lord's-day is steadily rising; and that efforts are being successfully made for the partial relief of certain oppressed classes of the labouring population, especially the cab drivers; and trusts that Wesleyans will lend all their influence towards the practical promotion of such objects.

On Monday morning the Conference was chiefly occupied in discussing the means of promoting the greater efficiency of Sunday schools. Various business was transacted in the evening, including the reading of the stations. At morning sitting, on Tuesday, the question of bazaars in chapels was discussed, and it was determined to point out in the pastoral address the evils to which the plan is liable. The rest of the sitting was occupied with discussions on the stations of ministers. In the evening the discussion was resumed. The district chairmen (who nominate the district secretaries) were then appointed. On Wednesday morning the question of rescinding the rule which excludes from the colleges young men under engagements to marry was deferred till next year. The question of altering the Service-book was postponed in the same way. It was reported that the entire sale of tracts during the year had been £1,970,981. In the evening a devotional meeting was held in the Free Trade Hall. On Thursday morning the final list of Home Missionary stations was read. Various other business was transacted. In the evening it was decided that the students in the clerical colleges, who, after Conference, would have returned to their respective colleges to complete their term of study by a third year's residence, should be sent to circuits immediately, because of the large demand for additional ministers. For the same season, a large number of junior students and a few fresh men are to be drafted into active service. The next English Conference is to be held in London.

METHODIST FREE CHURCH ANNUAL ASSEMBLY, AT SHEFFIELD.—This body closed its sittings on Saturday week. The last days of its sitting were occupied with the consideration of the finances, and numbers of the Connexion, the appointment of the annual committee, the election of a financial secretary, the reading of the various addresses to the home and foreign societies, the stationing of the preachers, and other important matters. The numerical and financial returns showed that the last year had been a very prosperous one, as compared with the former year. The numbers show an increase of 29 itinerant preachers and missionaries, 689 local preachers, 207 leaders, 6,871 members, 1,029 members on trial, 88 chapels, 1,741 Sunday

school teachers, 6,544 Sunday scholars. The missionary receipts showed an increase of about 1,500. The Chapel Fund and the Beneficent Fund also showed an increase. The question of a Connexional hymn book occupied a good deal of attention. At present two hymn books are in use, the Association and the Reform books, which differ only in the supplement. It was ultimately agreed that the two hymn books should be blended, all the hymns common to both supplements being retained, and the remaining portion selected mainly from both books. Eight brethren were received as ministers on probation,—Rev. Weir, Warne, Adcock, Saul, Green, Holliday, Downing and Hudson. The sittings of the Assembly were characterised by great harmony and comfort, and several very important improvements were made in connexional arrangements.

THE REFORMERS AND THE WESLEYAN CONFERENCE.—The Wesleyan Reformers held a meeting in the Free Trade Hall, on Tuesday evening, at which discussion was invited. The speakers were the Revs. J. Bromley, J. Everett, and W. Griffiths. A resolution was moved, declaring that "The Wesleyan Conference, as now constituted and conducted, is not entitled to the countenance, confidence, or support of the inhabitants of these realms, being Protestants." Mr. Probert moved an amendment, reversing the terms of the motion, and declaring the Conference to be "fully entitled to the countenance, confidence, and support of all the inhabitants of these realms." Mr. S. Taylor seconded the amendment. It was negatived by ten to one, and the resolution was carried. The proceedings then terminated.

SITTING OR STANDING?—A memorial, subscribed by about eighty members of the East Church, Aberdeen, was laid before the Kirk-Session on Monday, objecting to the proposed change of posture from sitting to standing during praise. As the change was to be adopted only if unanimity prevailed in regard to it, the Session resolved that no change should take place. A correspondent of the *Aberdeen Herald* says that 1,920 and upwards of the congregation were in favour of the proposed change, while only 80 were against it.

MISSIONARY OPERATIONS IN THE EAST.—The Archbishop of Canterbury, the Bishop of London, and the other prelates and laity who constitute the governing body of the Propagation Society, have issued the following notice in reference to extended missionary operations in India and the East:—

The Society for the Propagation of the Gospel in Foreign Parts, in pursuance of a resolution to double the number of European missionaries in India, has already despatched five clergymen, graduates of Oxford and Cambridge, to that country, and is anxious, with as little delay as possible, largely to increase the number. By another resolution, the society stands pledged to found new and strengthen existing missions in the presidential and other principal cities of India, and it would mention Madnapore, Patna, Allahabad, Lucknow, Bareilly, Lahore, Ahmedabad, and Bombay, as places to each of which it is desirous of sending at once an efficient staff of missionaries and schoolmasters. For the supply of men duly qualified to serve God in preaching the Gospel of his blessed Son to the heathen, not only in India, but also in China, Japan, and Borneo, the society makes its solemn appeal to the younger clergy to offer themselves for this great work of the Church of Christ.

In connexion with the extension of the Episcopate in India, the following remarks are made in a paper issued by the society:—

An Act of Parliament would probably be required for the sub-division of the present Indian dioceses. According to the scale of Indian salaries an endowment five or six times the amount of what is thought sufficient for a British colony would be required for an Indian bishopric. But even if an adequate endowment were provided by private subscriptions, the same mode of appointment which is allowed for a colonial see would hardly be approved where the subordinate clergy would consist in chief part of chaplains nominated by the Government. These objections, not we trust insuperable, are supposed to have delayed, at least, the required additions to the episcopate in India. But one sees has, it is understood, been virtually promised for the North-west Provinces. Another surely is required for the Punjab, and whatever difficulties may stand in the way of such a measure, it will be impossible much longer to overlook the claims of that remarkable mission ground of Tinnevelly for a bishop of its own.

MARRIAGE OF CHINESE PROTESTANTS.—Among our marriage announcements to-day will be found the marriages of two Christian Chinese ladies in the North of China, at the chapel of the American Episcopal Mission. The publication of such events is both novel and interesting, and is believed to be the first instance of Chinese Protestant Christians entering into the bonds of matrimony. The Rev. E. W. Syle, in whose chapel the marriages were performed, remarks that the chief impression that seemed to be left on the minds of the adult Chinese present was, that this way of marrying is particularly definite and satisfactory. The *North China Herald* notices one of the marriages as the first instance in which all the parties concerned were at once Chinese, Christian, and Protestant. The bride was entirely hidden under the red robes, crown-shaped head-dress, and crape veil of the Ming dynasty, a costume which the Tartar conquerors have never succeeded in changing. There was music, and a profusion of garlands and flowers. The whole was distinctively Chinese, but the writer hopes that soon the "wedding-ring" may be counted among the established institutions of the families of China.—*Record.*

Religious Intelligence.

THE REV. T. A. WILLIAMS, of Houghton, Hunts, has received and accepted an unanimous invitation to the pastorate of the Baptist Church, Haddenham, Cambridgeshire. He will enter on his new charge the third Sabbath in October.

CONGREGATIONAL SCHOOL, LEWISHAM.—A devotional service to implore the Divine blessing upon the new masters and the pupils at the commencement of a new session, was held in the school-room on Friday evening last. Several members of the committee attended, and, after singing appropriate hymns, prayer was offered by Mr. Potter and the Rev. Messrs. Mummary and Rose. The Rev. Dr. Ferguson, who presided, then delivered a very kind and parental address to the pupils, and concluded the service. About forty sons of Congregational ministers are now in the institution, and it is hoped that the new master has before him a lengthened course of prosperity and usefulness in this interesting sphere of labour.

COLLEGE, REGENT'S-PARK.—The literary results of the last session are, we rejoice to see, highly honourable to this institution. In the University of London Mr. Mead has taken the degree of M.A. in Mental Philosophy; Mr. G. H. Rouse, the degree of LL.B. Three students, Messrs. Jardine, Hughes, and Fox, have passed the first B.A. examination, the two former in the first class. Messrs. Rooke, Cowell, Williams, Allen, Barlow, and Manus have matriculated, the first two in the first class, and the others in the second. This year it will be noticed, there are three classes, so that the second class is an honourable position. Mr. Rouse was second in Law Honours, Mr. Rooke second in Classical Honours; Mr. Jardine was third in Mathematical Honours, and obtained the Scholarship in English Literature. Mr. Rowe, another of the students, has obtained one of the Divinity Scholarships under Dr. Williams's trust. The reports on Biblical and Theological work are also highly satisfactory. Of the foregoing some are students for the ministry; others are lay students.

SUDSBURY.—Under the successful ministry of the Rev. J. Steer (late of Croydon) the former chapel in Frier-street had become too strait for the number of persons wishing to attend; it was, therefore, resolved to enlarge the place so as to furnish sitting accommodation for 300 more. The enlargement having been completed so as to present a very beautiful building, with a front of white brick in the Italian or Florentine style of architecture, and an interior every way elegant, commodious, and well lighted and ventilated, and capable of seating a thousand persons, the chapel was re-opened on Friday, the 29th of July; when the Rev. J. Stoughton, of Kensington, preached in the morning, and the Rev. E. Manning, of London, in the evening, to large and attentive audiences. The Rev. Messrs. Bentley and Sowter, of Sudbury; Steer, of Castle Hedingham; Davies, of Layham; and Reeve, of Stowmarket, took the devotional parts of the services. Dinner was provided in the assembly-room, to which a crowded party sat down; and tea was subsequently prepared in the Corn Exchange, which was filled to overflowing. The company at both places was addressed by the Rev. J. Steer, Rev. J. Stoughton, Rev. E. Manning, Rev. S. Steer, Mr. Grey, of Croydon, Mr. Barker, of Sudbury, Rev. Eliezer Jones, Rev. T. Sowter, Rev. W. Bentley, Mr. M. Prentice, Rev. A. Anderson, Rev. J. Rutter, Rev. T. Giles, who severally congratulated the pastor and his people on what they had accomplished and the attractive appearance of their place of worship, which reflects so much credit on the architect, Mr. Barnes, of Ipswich, and the builder, Mr. Webb, of Sudbury. On the following Sunday the re-opening services were continued, when the Rev. Eliezer Jones, of Ipswich, preached morning and evening. The attendance, particularly in the evening, was large, and the collections altogether fell little short of £100.

CONFERENCE OF SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHERS.—The teachers of Bedford-street Sunday school having invited their fellow-labourers in connexion with the Congregational chapels of Cheltenham, Gloucester, and Tewkesbury, to meet them for the twofold object of enjoying the delightful scenery of the Stroud vale, and encouraging one another by advice in the all-important work of Sabbath-school teaching; on Wednesday, August 10, a numerous party of friends (about 100) arrived by the train 10.20, and proceeded to the chapel where a devotional service was conducted, presided over by the Rev. W. Wheeler; after which many of them bent their way to Rodborough Hill to gaze upon the wide extended valley flushed with beauty and crowned with plenty. At two o'clock about 140 friends sat down to a cold collation elegantly and abundantly provided in the school-room beneath the chapel, which had been tastefully decorated with evergreens and flowers. After the repast it was suggested by Dr. Brown that a visit be paid to the cemetery, and that a procession be formed, headed by Captain March and the superintendents of the various schools. At the cemetery a hymn was sung; after which Dr. Brown, briefly advertizing to the interest which the neighbourhood should excite, directed the attention of the company to the names of Tyndale, the Bible translator, of Berkeley; Hooper, the martyred bishop of Gloucester; Whitfield, who, on the surrounding hills, had attracted by his marvellous eloquence thousands of eager listeners; Raikes, whose name will ever be revered as the founder of Sabbath schools; Cornelius Winter, the friend and tutor of William Jay; and last, but not least, Benjamin Parsons, of Ebley, the

earnest preacher of God's truth, and the indefatigable defender of the rights of the working man. It was also mentioned that the gunpowder plot was concocted at Lyppiat, and the gunhouse at Bowbridge was a place of shelter and defence during the Civil war. At six o'clock a tea-meeting was held; after which a vote of thanks, proposed by Dr. Brown and seconded by Captain March, was tendered to the Stroud teachers for the warm-hearted reception they had given to all assembled. There was during the evening a conference, when practical hints were suggested for the better management and more complete success of Sabbath schools. Short addresses were delivered by Dr. Brown, the Hon. Mr. Price (late of Canada), the Rev. W. Wheeler, Messrs. Gore and Nottcott, of Cheltenham, Winterbotham and James, of Stroud. There was an unanimous expression of feeling on the part of all present that this should be but the first of a permanent series of Sunday school Conferences, and it was agreed at the suggestion of Mr. Nottcott to appoint teachers to determine upon the best means of carrying out the object proposed. By the train 9.45, after a hurried and scrambling supper, the visitors returned to their respective towns highly gratified with the day's excursion, and anticipating at no lengthened period a similar happy reunion.

ACOCK'S-GREEN, NEAR BIRMINGHAM.—The ceremony of laying the first stone of the Congregational Chapel, intended to be erected at Acock's-Green, was performed on Thursday afternoon, by the Rev. J. Angell James, under very favourable and encouraging auspices. A large number of persons from the neighbourhood and from Birmingham were present, it being calculated that not less than 700 persons were on the spot. The sacred edifice will be in the decorated style of the fourteenth century. The building will provide accommodation for 450 persons. The cost of erection will amount to £1,750. The proceedings were commenced by the singing of a hymn, which was followed by the reading of the 134th Psalm, by the Rev. J. Hammond. The Rev. J. A. James, standing near the stone, then addressed the assembly. Having read a note from the Rev. H. Gwyther, vicar of Yardley, who was unable to be present owing to absence from home and indisposition in his family, and after some appropriate religious remarks, he said:—

The necessity for erecting the new chapel arose from the fact that a large number of respectable and somewhat wealthy families connected with Carr's-lane and Ebenezer Chapels had come to reside in that village. Their villas were spreading around the locality, ornaments to the place, and sheltering those who would doubtless be a blessing to it. They, of course, had found it inconvenient to go to worship at Ebenezer or Carr's-lane, and naturally wished to have some place near their domiciles. They had therefore come forward generously and contributed towards the edifice now commenced; and not only they, but he might say in praise of the liberality of the inhabitants, many of whom who were members of the Church of England. He had often heard it remarked as a taunt to Nonconformists that theirs was "a religion of barns." He, for one, had no antipathy to it on that account, for when they considered that the great founder of religion was born in a stable, and that in default of a cradle they laid him in a manger, they need not heed the taunt. The time was, however, coming when this taunt could no longer be applied. Not that he did not believe that true religion in a barn was more acceptable to God than false doctrine in a cathedral; but when circumstances admitted of the change from the "barn" to the chapel it would be an insult to Almighty God not to take advantage of them. Therefore, they were on that occasion, amongst others, ascending to something more elegant. He was told they were not only to have a spire to the new chapel, but also a bell; so that they were coming at last to what the Quakers called "steeple houses." There was a little ambition in these modern times for architectural adornment in their places of worship, but it must not be forgotten that it was the truth, and the truth alone, that could convert the souls of men. The organ's solemn peal, the "dim religious light," the studded windows, the lofty columns, the pointed arches, the groined roof, and the mosaic pavement, never yet converted a soul to God nor turned a sinner to the practice of righteousness, but the truth had turned millions and would turn millions more. In the new chapel would be preached the adorable Trinity; they held the proper divinity of our Lord, the divinity and personality of the Holy Spirit; they held and preached the doctrine of justification by faith with works in the sight of God, and the regeneration and sanctification by the Holy Spirit of the renewed heart of man. They were therefore quite in harmony with the doctrine and articles of the Church of England, and he might say for himself that were he to set his hand to any other formulary he would rather choose that of the Church of England, apart of course from what related to Ecclesiastical Government, than any other he knew of. They intended then to preach those great truths, not with the view of making people Dissenters, for they must observe these doctrines embodied both Churchmanship and Dissent. All that would be done there would be by the operation of the voluntary principle; it was not intended as a battery against the parish church but of additional good to the inhabitants, and he hoped the future minister would be enabled to act in perfect harmony with Mr. Gwyther. In conclusion, Mr. James fervently trusted that the worship of both congregations would be acceptable to God.

The ceremony of laying the stone was then performed, a handsome silver trowel, bearing an appropriate inscription, being presented to Mr. James for the purpose. Underneath the stone were deposited several contemporaneous publications, including the *Nonconformist*, and in a cavity cut in its upper surface was placed a glass bottle containing the various coins of the realm. The usual formalities having been observed the rev. gentleman declared the stone well and truly laid. The Doxology was then sung, and the interesting proceedings were brought to a conclusion by a dedication prayer by

the Rev. Mr. Johnson. The company afterwards partook of tea under a couple of spacious marques contiguous to the site. The repast was provided entirely by the ladies, the price of the tickets being devoted to the building fund. Afterwards the meeting was briefly addressed by the Rev. Mr. James, Rev. Mr. Harte, Mr. Pemble and Mr. Mines. The collection realised about £2, making the result of the day's receipts, inclusive of tea tickets, about 50L.

Correspondence.

THE LIBERATION SOCIETY—ITS FRIENDS, NEUTRALS, AND FOES.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—“The dangers and duties of success” has confirmed my impression that the Liberation Society has, within the last few months, arrived at an epoch in its history which demands both the congratulation and consideration of its friends, as never before. Are they fully aware of their own strength, and of the necessity which that very strength imposes for the most careful and discriminating action in the future?

The acceptance by a large majority of the present Ministry of the policy of the Church-rate Abolition Bill, gives a new element of power to the society, and places it in a somewhat altered aspect before the country. Though the Ministry are not Anti-State-Churchmen, they are none the less upholders of an Anti-State-Church policy. Their explicit denial of the non-establishment theory not only implied, but called for and called forth an explicit avowal of the policy which guides the action of the Liberation Society. Having once committed themselves to the avowed necessity of yielding to the national will, they cannot go back. They say in effect, “Should it ever be the will of the nation to separate the Church from the State, her Majesty’s advisers ought to yield.” In other words, national feeling must not be controlled by the will of the Church.

Now this is not simply the deliverance of hereditary statesmen, even then though out of office it would have been valuable, but of hereditary statesmen in office, and called to office partly in expectation, on the part of the people’s representatives, of such a deliverance from them. “National feeling must not be controlled by the will of the Church,” may now therefore be regarded, not as the policy of the Liberation Society only, but of the nation also. Those who, in the People’s House, did not approve it, yielded their consent to its adoption by the Government of the day. They had an alternative—the resignation of their seats. Does not such an adoption of the society’s policy by the House of Commons give to the society the first blush—so to speak—of a national aspect? And though at present the result be *nil*, yet the prospect it opens up to the society, judging from the language and action of opponents, is a decided gain, and augurs well for the good time coming when the society shall represent the moral feeling and political opinions of the nation not only on the Church-rate question but on every other which may demand a like solution before the Church can be severed from the State.

We do not, however, wish to make too much of the society’s honourable position with respect to this question. The collection of Church-rates is still permitted by the law of the land, nor can we tell how long this permission may be continued. And yet this fact serves to bring out into greater prominence the essential virulence of ecclesiastical law. Condemned by the voice of the nation, and that condemnation held by the reigning Ministry to be a sufficient ground, contrary to their own private feelings, for the repeal of this particular law, are we not driven to conclude, that so long as State-Churchmen can tyrannise over the nation they will not hesitate to do so? Clearly enough then there exists in this nation a party who “despise dominion,” invite revolution, and spit upon that which alone gives majesty to law—the recognised will of the people. Such are the foes of the Liberation Society. Had they adopted a course as honourable as politic, and as much in harmony with the spirit of British law as the Liberation Society has done, the Church-rate Abolition Bill would have been entered upon the statute-book of the realm before the present session of Parliament had been suffered to close.

A wise man once said, “Hope deferred maketh the heart sick;” also “It is abominable to fools to depart from evil.” What reason, then, have we to hope that ecclesiastical tyranny will not, like other tyrannies, tend to unman its victims and render more callous and obstinate the tyrants themselves? Though last winter and spring witnessed to the popular feeling on the side of the Liberation Society, and its subsequent acknowledgement by her Majesty’s Ministers, we can by no means make sure of a similar feeling in the winter coming; and if not, the ground of their encouragement to Church-rate abolition will be apparently cut from under them. It is quite possible that other and more exciting questions may push the Church-rate question aside. May we not learn hence not to lean upon political action, however constitutional, upright, and firm? Do we not want stronger than political weapons?

The Liberation Society did wisely and well in translating the State Church question from the narrow region of theological controversy into the broad battle-field of political action, but how came it to pass that success crowned its endeavours? Was it that they sought political power, only appealing to passions which burn for the moment and as quickly grow cold? Was it not rather that their political instruction and action had a distinct and understood moral basis? Though they unfurled the standard of religious liberty upon the political battlefield, they had the eternal rock of moral principle in their eye. But that standard is in the political battlefield still, it is not yet planted upon the rock. The war-cry of the nation against Church-rates at present is “The political equality of British citizens.” It has scarcely murmured the deeper, louder, more powerfully-significant cry, “The moral rights of the individual man.” Though some of our leading statesmen have acknowledged the political necessity of Church-rate abolition, those same statesmen have questioned, if not denied, its moral right. They say they cannot see it is unjust, and in so saying they speak as legislators. Nor so long as law, considered as the upholder of morality, permits it, can it be called unjust. But the Liberation Society, in the capacity of political reformers, call in

question the morality of the law. Because it of *necessity* presses with greater weight upon one part of the community than another, it is unfair, inequitable, and in this sense unjust. And this is all that, as *politicians*, we are entitled to say against it. But when we go further, and say that the British Government—Queen, Lords, and Commons—ought not to lend the sanction and power of its authority to a vestry majority to enable them to tax themselves in connexion with their neighbours of the minority, we descend below the sphere of politics proper to those moral principles upon which law is or ought to be founded. We say in effect, this Church-rate law is not founded on the great moral law, “Thou shalt love thy neighbour as thyself.” This Church-rate question has to do with more than the details of British law—it seeks to give it a new, firmer, and broader basis. Hence the proved insufficiency of political action for the *timely* removal of this grievance. While, then, the Liberation Society is, and ought to be, an association of political reformers, it is, and I think must more than ever show itself to be, an association of moral reformers. Its work is nothing less than to purify the very fountain of British law and equity.

How can it more fully exhibit itself in this respect? Can it not do it by eschewing altogether everything which would betray a tendency to ecclesiasticism, and by cultivating a moral or ethical character? Must there not be a more general and hearty recognition of the necessity of knowing nothing of the abstract principles of either Churchmen or Dissenters, i.e., of the Establishment theory as a theory on the one hand, and Church polity on the other. Dissenters must consent to waive the abstract question—separation of Church from State—and leave this final issue of the great struggle pending to the outgrowth of their own principles. Do they believe they are right—then let them not fear for the issue. Let us say to State Churchmen, If the Establishment can stand the assaults of truth and equity, we refuse not,—let it stand; but if you believe it can, why do you fear, why oppose our efforts to clear it of those abuses which contradict the moral sense of mankind? So long as it is a national institution, have we not a right to seek to modify it according to our own sense of right? Yielding not a grain of our faith, let us seek to commend it to the moral sense of our opponents as well as the untutored, assured that, grain after grain, it will be accepted by every true friend of religious freedom until the Church herself shall desire and seek freedom from the bonds of her unholy alliance. Here is moral power! Such power will give a resistless vitality to political action. Foes will then cease their absurd invectives, and try the weapons of argument. Neutrals will be won over to open adherence and diligent action, and the zeal of those friends which now provokes resentment will become tempered with discretion which shall compel opponents to recognise them as the friends of political order, religious liberty, and national piety; and the Liberation Society, becoming a national institution, shall endure as the British Association for the Liberation of Religion from State Control until religion is free from State fetters all over the world.

August 12, 1859. THOMAS ROBERTS.

COTTON CULTIVATION IN AFRICA.—AFRICAN CIVILISATION SOCIETY.

To the Editor of the Nonconformist.

SIR.—Will you permit me, through your columns, to state to the British public the plans of the above society, which I am here to represent. The African Civilisation Society, whose office is in New York, is the result of a practical anti-slavery feeling, which desires to promote the welfare of the coloured race by employing their energies in every direction in which free labour can be made instrumental in superseding slave labour. As cotton is the great bulwark of slavery in America, it is plain that if that staple could be extensively cultivated elsewhere, a heavy blow will be struck at slavery in the United States. As long as Britain pays over 20,000,000/- sterling to the slaveholders of the South, so long will the chains be riveted on the slave. If England can be delivered from complicity with the system by obtaining her cotton from Africa, the great problem will be solved.

Now it has been discovered that cotton grows indigenously throughout all of Central Africa, and already it is imported into Manchester by that ardent friend of Africa, Thomas Clegg, Esq. The African Civilisation Society design to promote civilisation and Christianity in Africa, and, at the same time, elevate the coloured race on both sides of the Atlantic, by enabling them to supply, by free labour, that great staple to England which now employs them in slavery. If they are the only race which can stand the climate where cotton is produced, it is right that they should enjoy some of the profits of production. The objects of our society are thus set forth in its constitution:—“The evangelisation and civilisation of Africa, and of the descendants of African ancestors in any portion of the earth, wherever dispersed. Also, the destruction of the African slave-trade, by the introduction of lawful commerce and trade into Africa; the promotion of the growth of cotton and other products there, whereby the natives may become industrious producers as well as consumers of articles of commerce; and generally, the elevation of the condition of the coloured population of our own country, and of other lands.”

The country which has been selected as the best field to commence this great work is that of Yoruba, in Central Africa:—

Yoruba is situated in that extensive and fertile portion of Central Africa which lies north of the Gulf of Guinea, and west of the Niger; upon that elevated plateau or table land which commences about forty or fifty miles from the coast, and is almost entirely free from the miasmatic influence which infests the lands bordering on the sea-shore. It is about two hundred and fifty miles from east to west, and nearly two hundred from north to south.

A description given by Rev. Mr. Bowen, who has been five years a resident and Baptist missionary in Yoruba, is as follows:—“Between Abbeokuta and the Niger, that is, within a distance of one hundred and sixty miles, there are more than a dozen large towns, some of which are more populous than Abbeokuta. Central African houses are built in Moorish style, large and low, with many rooms opening into an interior court. The walls are made of clay, which bakes hard in the sun, and the roofs are generally thatched with grass. In some respects the Soudanese are considerably advanced from mere barbarism. Whether heathens or Mohammedans, they are clad in trousers and tunics. They are remarkably courteous in their social intercourse. Several rude arts are commonly practised, as the smelting of iron, and, in some places, of copper and lead; the manufacture of hoes, axes, adzes, knives, and swords; the spinning of cotton and silk; weaving and tailoring, both of which are regular professions; dyeing blue, yellow,

low, and red; soap-making; brewing corn and millet; making palm and grass hats, also saddles, bridles, and sandals, and a sort of shoes and boots. Three towns in Nufo have the art of working on glass. But the great business of the people is agriculture, in which they are far more skillful and industrious than we have supposed. The principal crops are Indian corn, the same as our own, and the tropical yam. But they also plant cotton, sugar-cane, beans and peas, sweet potatoes, cassava, ground peas, ginger, red pepper, &c., and the country is admirably adapted to coffee, and other tropical productions of great value to the civilised world.”

The Church Missionary Society, the Wesleyans, and the American Baptists, have flourishing missions already in operation in the west part. In the eastern part of Yoruba, there is a vacant tract extending from the sea to the great bend of the Niger, near Rabbah, about 250 miles in length, by from 30 to 50 in width. Very many intelligent and enterprising free men of colour from the United States wish to go there to accomplish the various objects of the Society, and I am now here to present their cause, and state their plans to a sympathising British public. I shall be glad to receive any communications or invitations to lecture either on the missionary or anti-slavery phases of this cause from ministerial brethren in any part of the United Kingdom. Any subscriptions or donations will be thankfully received, and may be addressed to me at the office of the British and Foreign Anti-Slavery Society, 27, New Broad-street, London. A company is anxious to start next October, and we are now only waiting the receipt of sufficient means. Four hundred pounds more will enable them to complete their arrangements. All the circumstances connected with this cause are replete with interest, both from the nature of the region under consideration, and the various questions relating to it. The present virtual re-opening of the slave-trade urges us to speedy action in behalf of the enslaved and of Africa.

I am yours, very respectfully,

THEODORE BOURNE,
Corresponding Secretary and Foreign Agent,
African Civilisation Society.

London, 12th August, 1859.

P.S. Papers friendly to this cause will materially aid us by inserting the above.

Foreign and Colonial.

THE FETE NAPOLEON.

The entry of the troops into Paris on Sunday took place in the greatest possible order. The Emperor and his suite proceeded along the Boulevards from the Bastille to the Place Vendome amidst the acclamations of the crowd, which was immense. The defiling of the troops terminated at 3.30 p.m. The Empress and the Prince Imperial were stationed at the Place Vendome. The soldiers bearing the standards which had been taken from the enemy were received with ovation. The flags of all those regiments which were torn by the enemy’s balls, or by grape shot, excited the population to enthusiastic cheers. There was no address delivered, nor any proclamation issued by the Emperor.

The correspondent of the *Daily News* gives a pithy and animated description of the *fête*. All the gay and holiday effects which could be produced by the profuse and tasteful use of flags and oriflammes and Venetian masts came out in full as strong relief as on any former occasion. In the Place Vendôme where the Imperial family were seated there was accommodation for 20,000 persons. Of the reception of the Emperor it is said:—

The reception was rather cold along the Boulevard Beaumarchais; but at the Porte St. Denis, and from thence westward, the cries were loud, frequent, and hearty. “Vive l’Empereur!” was cried very generally; but the favourite cry was, beyond all doubt, “Vive la ligne!” and this was frequently used, probably from ignorance, while the Guards were passing. The crowds were immense everywhere. Not only every window, but the roof of every house was as full as it could well be.

Prince Napoleon appears to have been altogether absent. The procession of soldiers is thus described:—

At the head of the procession came the wounded who were well enough to walk. They were literally loaded with costly bouquets which had been thrown to them by spectators on the boulevards. I saw scarcely a man among them without at least one, and several had six or seven. A young and handsome officer of the 74th, who had both his arms tightly wrapped up in linen bandages, excited much interest. Many of the men were very badly wounded, and walked with difficulty. Some were on crutches; but they all had a strikingly cheerful look, which bore witness to the wonderful efficacy of moral consolation for physical suffering. After the wounded came the Imperial Guard, commanded by the newly created Marshal, Regnault Saint Jean d’Angely, an elderly looking man, with white hair, moustaches, and imperial. He placed himself in front of the Emperor, with his back to the column, while his staff took up a position behind him close to the railings. The Guard then marched past, between the Emperor and their commander. The Guards being household troops, their colours are kept by the Emperor, and accordingly every regiment halted while the ceremony was gone through of returning them to his custody.

Marschal Baraguay d’Hilliers, Macmahon (Duke of Magenta), Canrobert, and Niel, were, of course, present. Macmahon and Niel, like Regnault St. Jean d’Angely, are marshals created in Italy during the campaign just concluded.

They were all exceedingly well received on the Place Vendôme; but the favourite beyond all question was Marshal Macmahon. His appearance was saluted by waving of handkerchiefs from all parts of the place at once, and bravos which lasted for several minutes. Many of the generals—who, thanks to Legray’s photographic portraits of them, were readily recognised by the public—received great ovations. General Forey, in particular, was hailed with a storm of applause. The generals returned the cheers of the public by raising the

sword-hilt to the height of the face and bowing repeatedly. It was evident from the expression of their countenances that they derived immense pleasure from the homage paid to them.

Some incidents of the pageant are recorded:—

One wounded officer appeared with his wife on his arm; another led two little girls by the hand; a pretty vivandière belonging to one regiment had been severely wounded, and hobbled along on crutches; and the 11th Chasseurs sported a white goat.

A chamberlain brought down the Imperial Prince from the balcony, and lifted him up to his father, who kissed him. Then, as if in compliance with a request of the child, the Emperor took him in his arms a second time, and placed him astraddle before him on his charger, where the little Prince remained for some seconds, while the head of the 4th corps d'armée was marching past. This pantomime was noticed by everybody, and produced a round of applause from the tribunes.

The last scene of all was not agreeable:—

Towards eleven o'clock to-day the face of the heavens changed, and nature spread an awning, in the shape of a thick black cloud, to do the office of a velarium. This was very pleasant for awhile. But presently there fell from this black cloud some of those large heavy drops which are the palpable precursors of a thunder shower. For a few minutes people tried to believe that it would hold up, but the rain soon came down very smartly, and in less than five minutes half the tribunes were evacuated. This shower did not, however, last long; bits of blue sky began to appear, and many of the ladies who had taken shelter under the tribunes and under improvised tents made by raising the ample velvet hangings which bordered the front of them, came back to their seats. In a quarter of an hour, however, another thunder shower, still heavier than the first, came down, but did not last long. This was generally voted to be the *bouquet* of finish. Vain hope! Presently a regular water-spout, in comparison with which the preceding showers were mere sprinklings, wetted people through in a few moments, and I should think spoiled more bonnets and dresses than have been sacrificed on any one occasion for many a long day. The cavalry of the guard, which wound up the procession, marched past before empty benches. Here and there a couple of ladies might be seen crouching under one umbrella, their feet in a puddle, and their crinolines and flounces, which no umbrella yet manufactured could cover, soaking wet. All this while the Emperor never budged, or appeared to take the least notice of the mishap. There he and his marshals sat on their horses, wet through to the skin; and may Heaven keep them from the rheumatism? The rain ceased a little before the Horse Artillery of the Guard, which closed the cortège, had marched past, and the Emperor, without losing a moment, set spurs to his horse, and, followed by his marshals and staff, proceeded to the Tuilleries.

At the banquet given to the chiefs of the army, on Sunday evening, the Emperor spoke as follows:—

Gentlemen.—The joy which I feel in finding myself again with most of the chiefs of the army of Italy would be complete if there were not mingled with it the regret of seeing the elements of a force so well organised and so formidable soon separated. As Sovereign and as Commander-in-Chief, I again thank you for your confidence. It was flattering for me, who had not commanded an army, to find such obedience on the part of those who had great experience of war. If success has crowned our efforts, I am happy to attribute the greater part of it to those skilful and devoted generals who have rendered my command easy, because, animated by a holy fire, they have unceasingly set an example of duty and of contempt of death.

Part of our soldiers are about to return to their homes; you yourselves are going to resume the occupations of peace. Do not forget, however, what we have done together. Let the remembrance of the obstacles surmounted, of the perils avoided, of the imperfections made manifest, often recur to your memory, since for every man of war remembrance is knowledge itself.

In commemoration of the campaign of Italy I shall cause a medal to be distributed to all those who have taken part in it, and I wish that you may be to-day the first to wear it. May it sometimes recall me to your thoughts, and while reading the glorious names which are graven on it, may every one say to himself, "If France has done so much for a friendly people, what would she not do for her independence?" I drink the health of the army.

The *Moniteur* of Friday contains a decree ordering a medal to be struck in commemoration of the Italian campaign, which is to be awarded to all those soldiers and sailors who have taken part in the said campaign.

THE FRENCH PRESS ON POLITICAL AFFAIRS.

There are symptoms that the French Emperor is annoyed at the present conduct of the Court of Vienna. The articles which have lately appeared here in praise of Kossuth and Garibaldi are attributed to this feeling.—*Letter from Paris.*

M. Granier de Cassagnac has fired off a noisy article against Belgium, because the Belgian Ministry have revived the old proposal to fortify Antwerp. He treats it as an English inspiration.

To consider the Channel as a river, and to make Antwerp a formidable *tête-de-pont*, which would enable English troops to disembark and to establish themselves when they please on the Continent, that is a reason which, in default of others, logically explains the design which Belgium appears to entertain of constructing costly fortifications against an imaginary enemy, against attacks which common sense renders improbable, and treaties impossible. Either the project of fortifying Antwerp has that signification or it has none at all.

The *Indépendance Belge* and the French *Union* have both replied to this fulminating leader with dignity and reason. The imputation implied against England is remarkable. It has been observed that M. Granier de Cassagnac's article had a bad effect on the Bourse.

M. Granier de Cassagnac had an article in Wednesday evening's *Pays* on "The French Army,"

which was a glorification of the gallant troops whom all Paris admired and applauded on Sunday last. M. de Cassagnac contends that from the earliest times the Gauls were the first soldiers in the world. Hannibal never could take Rome, but the Gauls did. The modern Gauls, keeping up the traditions of their ancestors, are at this day simply the best soldiers of the world in every possible point of view, and, "when once the service of maritime transports shall be completed, and a *corps d'armée* may be thrown on the sudden on any given point of an enemy's coast, the enemies of France or those who are jealous of her power will think twice before they provoke her." The article concludes in the same war-breathing strain, by the reflection that it is quite in vain for other powers to attempt to counter-balance the strength of the French army, and more especially now that it has at its head "a Sovereign who knows how to gain great battles."

M. Granier de Cassagnac, in an article in the *Pays*, headed "The Return of the Legions," says that the Emperor in projecting the Italian campaign imagined a deed which might have been thought as impossible. What poet would dare to re-write the *Aeneid*?—what orator to rival the funeral oration of Condé? The Emperor, however, has accomplished impossibilities. He went to Italy a great statesman, and returned at the end of two months a great captain. The writer says:—

What is wanting to the names illustrated in the campaign just concluded, to place them on a level with those of Berthier, Joubert, Kellermann, Lannes, Murat, Angereau, and Massena? Only a few more campaigns, if it should please God to have some in reserve for us, and that nimbus of glory which time alone adds to renown.

FRANCE.

The *Moniteur* announces that on account of the *fête* of the 15th instant the Emperor has pardoned 1,127 persons, sentenced for various crimes, offences, and infringements of the law, or reduced the terms of their imprisonment.

The official journal also says that the Emperor having decided upon retaining for the present an army of 50,000 men in Lombardy—several corps, which had much distinguished themselves in the late campaign—such as the 3rd Regiment of Zouaves, and the 1st Regiment of the Foreign Legion, will not be represented at the entry of the troops.

The *Moniteur* announces that the Emperor on Friday received the Marquis Tannay de Nerli, who delivered to him two letters—one from the Grand Duke Leopold II. of Tuscany, and the other from "the Grand Duke Ferdinand IV." The wording of this note has been much remarked. It seems to imply a recognition by Napoleon III. of the abdication of Leopold in favour of his son. But further, it is much to be feared that the paragraph in the *Moniteur* is a part execution of the treaty of Villafranca, and implies the Emperor's determination to restore the Dukes by force (if he cannot do it otherwise), as the Vienna journals assert roundly he has promised the Emperor of Austria to do.

Letters from Toulon confirm the intelligence that the experimental squadron stationed at that port is about to be reduced to a peace footing—four ships of the line and two frigates. Similar arrangements have been made for the Atlantic squadron at Brest, under the command of Rear-Admiral Fournichon.

The *Mémorial de Lille* gives the following piece of news, which, if true, must under present circumstances be regarded as highly important:—"It is positively stated that Lille will shortly be designated as the head-quarters of a grand military command with a marshal of France at its head. Marshal Niel is spoken of for this distinguished post."

THE CONFERENCE AT ZURICH.

The Conference at Zurich proceeds with its work in a holiday sort of manner. On Tuesday evening, the members attended a grand banquet. Speeches were made by the President of the Government, M. Duba, Count Colloredo, and the Federal Vice-President. On Wednesday, no sitting was held. From the accounts received, it seems as if the Conference consisted of alternate interviews between the French and Sardinian, and the French and Austrian Plenipotentiaries. It is reported that the armistice has been prolonged from the 15th of August to the 15th of October, and this really is the only work which seems to have been accomplished. Of course nothing is known of what takes place at the meetings, but from external appearances one would suppose that the course of the new love between France and Austria was not running very smooth.

On Monday, the whole diplomatic corps, the members of the Federal Council, and of the Government of the Cantons, and the municipality of Berne, were present at the *Te Deum* in honour of the *Fête Napoleon*. The French Ambassador, M. de Turgot, sat on the right, and the Austrian Minister on the left of the President, M. Staempfli. On the same day at Zurich all the Plenipotentiaries and the deputation of the Government of Zurich were present at the *Te Deum*.

A deputation of the Federal Council has paid a visit to the Plenipotentiaries of the Conference, which the latter have returned.

The *Nord* gives the following apparently semi-official information from Zurich:—

The armistice is indefinitely prolonged, and diplomats are at present occupied with the task of fixing the boundaries between so much of Venetia as is left to Austria and aggrandised to Sardinia. It is for the settlement of these details that the plenipotentiaries undertook those journeys to Vienna and Turin, of which

we have already spoken. All that has been said with regard to an alleged disagreement between the representatives of the three Powers is entirely false. The representatives of Austria and Sardinia have met whenever common interests regard their deliberation, and their intercourse has always been conducted with the most perfect courtesy. Between the representatives of France and Sardinia there is the most intimate cordiality.

Three principal questions at once present themselves for consideration. The treaty of Villafranca leaves Venetia to Austria, but as an integral part of the Italian confederation, and invested with a separate Government. To determine the character and political organisation of this state will be the first duty of the diplomats. The wishes of France in the matter are well known, and it is to be hoped that Austria, when she becomes thoroughly enlightened as to her own real interests, will not be desirous of drawing back; but long and tedious discussions are expected to arise in connexion with this question.

The question of the duchies is not less surrounded by difficulties. Who can compel these countries, whose unanimous objection to the restoration of the old dynasties is no longer to be contested, to return to their original form of Government? Austria could not, France would not, wish to do so. On this question, also, it is to be hoped that Austria will end by conceding to an imperious necessity.

SARDINIA AND LOMBARDY.

The King of Sardinia visited the military hospitals at Milan on the 8th, distributing crosses and medals to the wounded. His Majesty, on his return to the palace, received the visits of the most distinguished personages of the city. This was followed by a grand dinner, Alessandro Manzoni being one of the guests. The King and Prince Carignan conversed a long while with the venerable poet. In the evening the city was splendidly illuminated; the Corso presenting the most brilliant appearance. The King has also visited Bergamo and Brescia, and was received with enthusiastic cheers by the population of Lombardy. An amnesty for small offences has been proclaimed.

On Sunday the 14th the Municipality of Milan inaugurated the statue of Napoleon I., by Canova, in the Palais Brera, in the presence of Marshal Vaillant, the Sardinian authorities, and a large concourse of the people. Music was performed, and guns were fired during the ceremony.

The *fête* of Napoleon has been celebrated with great *éclat* at Turin, as the following telegram testifies:—

TURIN, Monday, August 15.

Last night and this morning the *fête* of the Emperor was announced by discharges of artillery. In the morning a review of the French troops took place. At nine o'clock the *Te Deum* was performed in the church, which was richly decorated. There were present the ministers, members of Parliament, the French ambassador, and the officers of the French army, the Piedmontese National Guard, and a large gathering of the population of the city. This morning eight guns, captured by the troops at the battle of Palestro, were exhibited in front of the palace. In the evening there will be a *fête de nuit* in the Place d'Armes.

The new elections of deputies which have taken place in consequence of the change of ministry have been nearly all ministerial. M. Ratazzi was re-elected at Alexandria. Garibaldi was elected at Stradella by 168 votes out of 180.

The *Piedmontese Gazette* contains a royal decree authorising the concession to Messrs. Peto and Wagstaff of a railway to be constructed between Voltri and Savona in Piedmont.

The Sardinian fleet, of six steamers, has returned to La Spezia from the Adriatic.

THE TUSCAN NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

An official message, dated Florence, the 9th, states that the elections were concluded with perfect order, and a large number of voters attended to give their suffrages. The elected belong to all classes of the country. Besides all the ministers the following have been elected:—MM. Masi, Torrigiani, Rubieri, Ginori, Zanetti, Peruzzi, Franchini, De Rossi, Vannucci, Cini, Capponi, Strozzi, Montanelli, Bartolomei, Ruschi, Del Ré, Garzoni, Galeotti, Caselli, Fabrizi, Giorgini, Malenchini, Adami, Romanelli.

The Ministers and deputies went on Thursday morning to the Cathedral to implore heavenly benediction. They were cheered at the opening of the assembly. A great number of the population were present. The opening message of Signor Riccioli was much applauded. The assembly was occupied with the examination of the election of the members. The whole town was covered with placards ending with the words, "Viva Vittore Emanuele il nostro Re."

On Friday the National Assembly elected Signor Coppi as its president, and also nominated its other officials. The Deputy Ginori proposed the Assembly should declare the reign of the dynasty of Lorraine as impossible in Tuscany. The representatives unanimously supported this proposal, the discussion of which was referred to the sitting of Tuesday.

Commissioners of the Governments of France, England, Prussia, and Russia, have arrived at Florence, and will be present at the discussions of the assembly.

THE INSURGENT PAPAL PROVINCES.

Advices received from Bologna state that a decree of the Government has convoked an assembly to be elected by the inhabitants, in order to express the wishes of the population. Several agents of Mazzini had been arrested and expelled.

Two battalions of Tuscans have replaced the Piedmontese troops at Bologna.

The *Times* correspondent, writing from Bologna on the 8th, says:—

The people of the Legations, as well as their rulers, seem to me less sanguine in their hopes for the ultimate success of their cause than the Modenesse population and their intrepid dictator, Farini.

A letter of the Emperor Napoleon III. to the Duke of Grammont, in Rome, is sold under the porticos of Bologna. It is read with great eagerness here as a notable piece of news. The Emperor "has promised to maintain inviolate the sovereignty of the Pontiff in Rome." He can "neither acknowledge nor sanction the deed by which the Legations separated themselves from Rome;" but he thinks "he has neither the right nor the duty to meddle with the internal affairs of the Legations." This lends itself to an endless variety of constructions.

In order that some even of the most moderate hopes, and, as Napoleon III. says, "of the most legitimate vows" of the patriots of these provinces may be realised, it is universally felt here that the country must arm, and this is now the sole business of the entire population. A couple of Piedmontese battalions are still in Bologna, but they leave this day or to-morrow at the latest. The Piedmontese uniform, however, meets us at every step, as the volunteers of Romagna have been clad after the strictest Sardinian pattern. There are 8,000 well-armed and equipped men under General Mezzacapo, with two batteries of eight guns each. Rosselli is at the head of 3,000 more combatants, all natives of the Legations. Only two battalions of the National Guard are now mobilised, fully clad, and in perfectly warlike trim; but I am assured that in less than a fortnight sixteen such battalions will be forthcoming. Mezzacapo, with 6,000 of his chosen troops, has his head-quarters at Forli, while strong battalions are echeloned at Cesena, Rimini, &c., as far as the defile of La Cattolica. On the side of Perugia and Città de' Castello no attack is expected, as the Apennine Passes in those several directions are arduous and rugged, and the roads impracticable, at least for artillery. In reality, the people of this country deem themselves and are perfectly safe from any onset on the part of the Papal troops, whether Swiss or natives, and laugh to scorn all idea of any aid his Holiness may receive either from Naples or Spain. They think their accounts must be settled with France and Austria; they are ready to submit to the ultimate fiat of the former Power, but they do not shrink from a desperate conflict with all the might of the latter. As at Parma and Modena every door at Bologna and throughout Romagna bears the inscription, "Viva Vittorio Emanuele, nostro legittimo Rè!" or "Vogliamo Vittorio Emanuele per nostro Rè!" The most sensible persons, however, have but little hope of joining Piedmont and Lombardy, and they begin to look to a formation of a kingdom of Central Italy consisting of Tuscany, the Duchies, and the Legations, as the most plausible solution of the present political knot. They think they may receive from England a great deal of help and support if such a plan is ever laid before a European Congress; they flatter themselves that the Protestant Powers which allowed the Pope to be propped up by French and Austrian bayonets in 1849 may now find out that they have an interest in insisting that he should rely for existence on his own unaided resources.

The Marquis Pepoli, a friend and relative of the Emperor, and Count Minghetti, Cavour's right arm during the late crisis, are still guiding the council of their colleagues in this Government. They have come to the best understanding with the rulers of the Tuscan and Modenesse movement, and the Piedmontese battalions which are leaving Bologna this day will make room for 3,000 regular Tuscan troops which are expected this same day from Modena.

In the meanwhile, nothing can equal the calm and firm attitude of the people of these provinces; nothing can come up to the ease with which public order is maintained by a population which has now a full control over itself, and which, only one month ago, 2,000 Swiss and ever so many thousand Austrians found utterly unmanageable. The same quiet and security are equally remarkable in town and country. Last year the roads were scarcely practicable and the villas hardly habitable owing to the bands of malefactors with which the provinces swarmed. But these evils are only compatible with priestly government, and it would seem as if the Cardinal Legates had taken robbers and brigands along with them and with the ruffianly *sbriri*, who were manifestly charged with the suppression of crime, but seemed to find their interest in its diffusion and perpetration.

ALLEGED PROCLAMATION OF THE RED REPUBLIC AT PARMA.

The following portentous despatch was published in Friday's papers:—

VIENNA, Thursday.

The official Austrian Correspondence of this evening contains private intelligence, dated Parma, the 9th instant, stating that the Piedmontese had been driven from the city. The Red Republic had been proclaimed. Property holders and the friends of order were taking flight.

Nothing has been since received from Parma to confirm the accuracy of this vague and interested statement. The following, dated the day previous, shows, however, that affairs were not in a satisfactory state:—

King Victor Emmanuel having withdrawn the mandate given to the Sardinian authorities at Parma, the Piedmontese Governor informed the municipality that he was about to leave. On his departure, the Governor announced that he should transfer the sovereign powers to his Secretary-General, M. Manfredi, of Piacenza, to govern in the name of the people. This measure, from its illegality, has produced a bad effect on the public mind.

The *Parma Gazette* of the 7th publishes the proclamation by which Count Pallieri resigns his powers as royal commissioner, and entrusts the Government to Advocate Manfredi. The reason he adduces for his resignation is that, notwithstanding the numerous manifestations and legal expressions of opinion in favour of annexation to Piedmont by the people of the duchy, some Powers still express a doubt as to the unanimity of the feeling; and that the people are, therefore, once more called upon to

declare their wishes. This proclamation is followed by another, issued on the 8th by Advocate Manfredi, who styles himself Provisional Governor of the Provinces of Parma. By this document, the people of Parma are convoked on the 14th in their communes, to accept or refuse the following plebiscite:—

The people of the Parmese province wish to be united to the kingdom of Sardinia under the constitutional Government of King Victor Emmanuel II.

All citizens of the age of twenty-one and upwards, and enjoying civil rights, were entitled to vote. The registers were to remain open from the 14th to the 21st. Those who did not know how to write were to get some one to record their votes for them.

Count Filipo Lanati, the new Mayor of Parma, is expected in Paris, to present an address to the Emperor, signed by 20,000 of his fellow-citizens, in favour of annexation to Sardinia.

The *Indipendente* of Turin states that twenty-six out of the twenty-nine communes of the province of Parma have declared their adhesion to the Sardinian Government.

THE ITALIAN DUCHIES.

The following important extract from the Modena correspondent of the *Times* contains most important information respecting the present state and future prospects of the duchy:—

MODENA, August 7.
The Dictator Farini has assembled a large force under his orders. Modena and Tuscany have signed an offensive and defensive league; and the 12,000 men of the Tuscan division, on their way back from Lombardy, were directed to take up their quarters in this place. The Grand Duchy itself is only defended by a reserve of 3,000 men and the National Guard. Besides the 12,000 Tuscans and their five and a-half batteries, Farini has organised a Brigade Modena, 6,000 men strong, chiefly recruited among the discharged volunteers from the Piedmontese regiments. Another brigade, also of 6,000 men, is to be ready in a few days, bearing the name Brigata Reggio. The whole National Guard of the duchy, from the age of eighteen to thirty-five, has been mobilised. In Romagna, on the other hand, Mezzacapo and Rosselli are at the head of 12,000 men; their vanguard is at Rimini, and protects the narrow pass of La Cattolica. Six thousand Tuscans guard the Modenesse frontier on the side of Mantua with their head-quarters, the ducal stronghold of Brescello. Tuscany and Modena constitute but one military power. Farini has secured the services of General Fanti, a Modenesse, who so signalised himself at the head of a Piedmontese corps d'armée during the late campaign. Cialdini, a native of Reggio, is also expected. Garibaldi is to bring his Cacciatori delle Alpi to Central Italy; and to take the command of a vast body of volunteers. The Generals under Fanti at Modena are Ullo, the leader of the Tuscan army, and Ribotti, the commander of the Cacciatori della Magra. To support this vast armament the funds, it seems, are forthcoming. The loan for 2,300,000 francs opened by Farini has been promptly filled up by the comuni or townships of the duchy. The Dictator, who has already put the very considerable domains of the banished duke under sequestration, is now contemplating the sale of the broad lands belonging to the expelled Jesuits. This Dictator, this Farini, one of the most amiable, accomplished, and high-polished men in Italy, has been seized by a fit of enthusiasm, which proves contagious to all who approach him, and which seems to have called forth all the latent energies of his nature. He saw, yesterday, for an hour, Count Reiset, as he went past Modena, at the railway station. He informed the astounded Imperial Envoy that both he, Farini, and his people were in terrible earnest. He made the Count understand that between him and the Modenesse there was a bond of life and death; that he would have the town battered down, burnt, and levelled with the ground, and the country laid waste and strewn with salt, sooner than he would see the Duke restored either by his own or by other forces. You must remember that Farini is an ancient friend of the Bonaparte family, having been a doctor in the family of King Joseph.

The Duke of Modena has recruited 4,000 men from the Austrian army, but it is not expected that he will attempt to march into his dominions with so small a force, as 8,000 of the Tuscan army are there to meet him, besides the Modenesse forces. Another report on the subject is as follows:—

With regard to the means at their disposal, it will be easy for the sons of Francis V. and Leopold to enlist a great many of those Lombards who are now every day being dismissed from service in Austrian regiments. They will, therefore, be in a position to collect an army of thirty or forty thousand men before the month of August is over. There is plenty of Austrian war material at their disposal in the great arsenals of the Venetian fortresses.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* thinks the Emperor of the French desires to raise up such an opposition as would render the restoration of the Dukes impossible.

The *Mercantile Courier* of Genoa states that the Princes who have lost their thrones in Italy have sent secret emissaries into their respective States, to ferment disorder and distribute money among their adherents.

DISPOSAL OF CENTRAL ITALY.

An intrigue, which deserves notice, is on foot for bringing forward Prince Napoleon as a candidate for Tuscany, rather than that province should be (in accordance with the wishes of its inhabitants) annexed to Sardinia. A letter circulated by Government journals in France says that "everybody in Florence speaks of Prince Napoleon as their future sovereign, and that people chalk on the walls 'Vive Napoleon (Jerome), King of Etruria.' — Paris Correspondent of the *Daily News*.

On the same subject the special correspondent of

the *Daily News* in Italy, writing from the headquarters of Garibaldi, says:—

Threatened with foreign intervention, fearing the restoration of the hated governments whom they have overthrown, the people of those states think, almost to a man, that they have nothing better to do than proclaim Prince Napoleon their king. You may be certain of what I am now stating, for all the information I have received from Modena, Reggio, and Florence leads me to believe that such will be the final result. All the exertions of Cavaliere Farini, and of the Tuscan provisional *giunta*, are directed to insure the election of the Prince, who, they hope, will be allowed to accept the crown of the renewed kingdom of Etruria. With such a solution they will avert all dangers of Austrian restoration, and ensure to themselves the support of France. In this fact lies, perhaps, the secret of the Villafranca convention, for it appears now that the long stay made at Florence by Prince Napoleon had no other object than that which I have mentioned. It will be for Europe to decide whether she can see with tranquillity a Bonaparte government established in Central Italy, or if it is for her interest to oppose it by going to war. What is certain is that rather than have back their archdukes the people of Central Italy will accept anything, will encounter any sacrifice.

The Genoa correspondent of the *Morning Star* has the following speculations on the subject:—

Some talk of a compromise, by which the Duchess Regent of Parma is to be transferred to Florence, giving her hand to Prince Eugene of Savoy, Carignano, the King's cousin—an honest constitutionalist, whose presence would be a guarantee of free institutions, not only in name, but substance. Others have dark fears that M. de Reiset's mission, if ineffectual in obtaining the pacific restoration of the Grand Duke, will aim at the election of Prince Napoleon—"a mere substitution of French for Austrian police," I hear it bitterly remarked.

THE POSITION OF GARIBALDI.

Garibaldi has had semi-official orders to assume the military leadership of Tuscany, the Duchies, and the Legations, but is said to hesitate on account of the unreliable spirit of the Tuscan troops. His corps in Lombardy at present consists of twenty battalions of infantry, four battalions of Bersaglieri, eight guns, with 150 artillerymen, 180 mounted guides, and a compagnie of engineers, in all 14,000 men.

Another account says:—"General Garibaldi has accepted the chief command of the forces of Central Italy."

General Garibaldi has arrived at Leghorn.

VENICE.

A correspondent of the *Times*, writing on the 8th of August, describes the state of that city when peace was proclaimed:—

The French fleet had arrived off Venice, the eager inhabitants crowded to the alturas of the various houses, the tricoloured flag of coveted liberty waved from the peaks of forty-four vessels. Hope brightened every eye, and the slaves dancing in their chains were loud in the praises of their liberator. Rash mortals! The very walls of Venice have ears,—every rat which swims across the canal has a tongue. No matter if reports are borne by the wind, or by a favoured gondolier, the police are always informed. Two days were sufficient to cast down all the bright fabric of hope, and leave the Venetians in the depths of despair. Many had boldly expressed their opinions. Hardly any had paid the forced loan. No one would touch the paper money. A chill of apprehension ran through Venetian society. The liberator was anathematised as *Il Traditore*, and many thought it high time to seek a place of concealment until the amnesty should become a reality. In the meantime, by way of continuing in the usual routine, eighty people were arrested and sent to join their leaders at Josephstadt.

The forced loan, to which hardly any one had voluntarily subscribed, was now enforced.

Pisani, who sold the famous Paulo Veronese picture to the English Government, had the honour, as sailors say, of "bowing the list," and he was desired to pay 100,000 florins, or 10,000^l sterling. Prince Giovannelli and Count Papadopoli were let off easily at 50,000 florins each (5,000^l). Trevis, a rich banker, was insulted by being asked for only 30,000 florins, and as these gentlemen were comfortably sipping their coffee they received the pleasant intimation that they must pay up the sums demanded, or in six days an officer, with a few Croats, would march them off to jail until it was paid. At first Pisani was inclined to forego the honour, for the French flag was in the offing, and many of those gentlemen who were required to pay 10,000 florins, 5,000 florins, or 1,000 florins, declared they preferred the bolts and the bars to paying such an unfair tyrannical demand. But the French fleet sailed, and a "crust of bread and liberty" were found preferable to dirty water, bad food, no candles, and a uncomfortable residence to all but scorpions and rats; thus the tax was paid.

But let any Englishman, however rich, imagine the admission of a police officer and the requirement to pay 10,000^l. or 5,000^l. in six days; yet such actually was done in Venice on the day above mentioned.

NAPLES.

The accounts from Naples are very discouraging. "I am compelled now to say (says the *Daily News* correspondent) that the state of things here is most hopeless. Nothing will emanate from this government calculated to satisfy the people."

We have had an amnesty which served only to awaken public indignation—an act destroying the lists of suspects, which was undermined and nullified by a circular, which I sent you, addressed to the intendants, and by them to the provincial functionaries; it bore the date of 24th June, and says, "it is necessary to exercise surveillance at all times over dangerous men, whether they have or have not been on the lists of the Attendi-bili;" and General Filangieri himself admitted that 100,000 families would be affected by that act. Then again we have had arrests and exiles; and the British government has been grossly insulted, by having had its special intercession in favour of men imprisoned illegally

for three years responded to as it was last week—thirty persons, some of whom were men of fortune and education, having been manacled and fastened to a long rope, and sent off to "relegation" in the Isle of Capri, where they present themselves, according to order, twice a day to an inspector of police. The famous circulars of Filangieri, too, must be noted, which, whilst proposing changes impossible of realisation, admit the existence of the worst abuses which have been charged even against this government. The Neapolitans ask if these are the salutary reforms which Louis Napoleon hinted at as likely to be introduced. The fact is—and in sober seriousness I assert it—the position is worse than it was, for the Sovereign, instead of being, like Ferdinand II., a man of firmness of character, is the slave of his Camarilla. His intentions may be excellent at any fixed hour to-day, but God knows what they may be two hours after. Thus his Prime Minister is engaged in a constant struggle with some unseen and secret power. At times he makes an impression on the royal mind and retires full of hope; but the old advisers flock around the King, and everything is reversed. These are facts, and until that nest of ill-omened birds be cleared out, neither will Filangieri succeed in eliciting or working out reforms, nor will any foreign minister succeed in exercising any permanent influence over the sovereign will.

Strong and active efforts were being made to acquire a complete control over the public mind, and to procure an apparently free expression of opinion against the two great points which would shortly have to be agitated: the Confederation and a Constitution.

EXTRACTS FROM ITALIAN CORRESPONDENCE.

A HUMAN BUTCHER.—The correspondent of the *Daily News* gives the following account of Captain Peard, the only Englishman in Garibaldi's corps. It appears he fights only for the brutal love of killing:—

In my former letter I had occasion to speak of Captain Peard. He comes from Cornwall, and belongs to a militia regiment, whose uniform he wears with a decidedly martial bearing. He is a man of a tall and colossal frame, nearer sixty than fifty, and is considered the best shot of the party. Although he has been attached to Garibaldi's staff, he makes war at his own expense, and he was always to be found in the thickest of the fray. It seems that his only object was that of getting a good shot at the enemy, and whenever he had killed an Austrian he was seen to mark him down in his pocket-book. A few days ago I met Captain Peard at Brescia, and he was kind enough to show me his book, from which it was apparent that twenty-five Austrians were killed by him during the campaign, besides ten who were under the heading of "uncertain." I was greatly amused at the unpretending manner in which our countryman spoke of his rather curious propensity for such a murderous game, for he assured me he professes the utmost indifference to the cause of Italian independence. He is like one of those Italian *condottieri* of the middle ages who made war for pleasure, without inquiring whether the cause he served was the wrong or the right one. Such is Captain Peard, who is now anxious that war should begin on the Arno or on the Tevere, in order to have a few score of Swiss soldiers to add to his list, under the heading of "really dead."

GARIBALDI.—Although the taste of the French painters has clad Garibaldi in a sort of mediæval costume, the general always wears the Piedmontese uniform of his rank. The only difference to be noticed is in the trimming and the colour of the cloth. His manners are exceedingly kind and unpretending, and he speaks more like an Englishman than a man of the south. On my arriving here I found all these young volunteers desirous to go to Tuscany, where they hope to find good work for their rifles. Count Giovanni Arrivabene, a well-tried friend of the general's, who only the other day got the epaulette of *sous-lieutenant*, told me that Garibaldi hopes to be allowed to go to Central Italy. If he succeeds in doing so, with the influence he exercises over the Italians, there is no doubt the peace and the security of those provinces will be assured at once. He will find there an army of 50,000 volunteers, and with such a force he can easily rout the mercenary troops of Austrian arch-dukes, should they be bold enough to attempt the conquest of their lost thrones. On the other hand, he will be able to restore internal order, should any attempt be made to disturb it.—*Special letter from Tirano, in the Daily News.*

FRENCH AND AUSTRIAN MISUNDERSTANDING.—I have been informed that since Wednesday orders have been received from Paris to march at once a French brigade at Bergamo, and two others nearer the Mincio. What all this means I cannot tell, but a rumour is current amongst the French army still in Lombardy that Louis Napoleon has some reason or other for not being satisfied with his Imperial friend of Vienna. Such a rumour is also prevalent here, and, as you may easily suppose, the hopes of these gallant *cacciatori dell' Alpi* have been greatly roused by the report that war is going to be renewed. An officer who has just arrived from the head-quarters of Lovere tells me that the object of Senator Plezza's mission was to arrange with Garibaldi the details of the march of his brigade towards the Po. This report was soon spread amongst the soldiers, and I saw a number of these noble fellows almost mad with joy.—*Letter dated August 5, from Tirano, Garibaldi's head-quarters.*

AUSTRIA.

The *Frankfort Journal*, in a letter from Vienna of August 6, says:—

We are assured that the immediate cause of the Minister of the Interior's resignation is the following:—Shortly after the Emperor's return Baron Bach received his Majesty's command to draw up a memorial repre-

senting the necessity of reform. The minister lost no time in complying with this desire, and made propositions of reform on the very widest basis. He proposed, for instance, it is said, to dissolve the council of the empire, to create provincial representations with an electoral scale fixed by law, and, lastly, to subject the journals to the control of the tribunals alone, by freeing them from the censorship of the police and administration. Baron Bach declared that if these proposed plans were not adopted he should leave the ministry.

It is confirmed that Baron Bach has tendered his resignation because the reforms he proposed were rejected by the Emperor. But it is certain there is no material difference between the programme of Baron Bach and that of M. von Schmerling, whose advice has since been asked. It is reported that the commission for working out of the constitution is equally opposed to the views of Baron Bach and M. von Schmerling, and that the new constitution of Austria will be founded on aristocratical and clerical power. The members of that commission are—Count Rechberg (Minister for Foreign Affairs), Count Leo Thun (Minister of Public Instruction), Count Clam-Martinitz (Chief of the Government of Cracovie), Count Wolkenstein (Imperial Councillor), and Baron Hubner (formerly Ambassador at Paris).

A communication from Vienna states that well-informed persons are of opinion that the Emperor's birthday, the 18th inst., will witness the publication of the late reforms promised by the imperial manifesto, and especially the important provincial constitutions.

The polemics between the Austrian and Berlin journals continue unabated.

The principal organs of the Austrian press do not appear to entertain any doubt of the recall of the fugitive dukes. The *Vienna Gazette* declares that the Conferences of Zurich have only for object to render definitive the arrangements come to at Villafranca, and expresses astonishment that any one could feel doubts as to the realisation or even as to the possibility of the realisation of the points decided on between the two Emperors.

"Sanctioned," it says, "by the signature of the two sovereigns, these preliminaries present, as a guarantee for their execution, the word given, and, as a condition of their possible realisation, the power of the two monarchs."

A despatch of a later date (Monday) contains information that shows how delusive are all hopes of reform. It is as follows:—

The Ministerial crisis is not yet over. It is said that a combination with Count Leo Thun at the head has met with so many difficulties that its success is very doubtful. Count Clam Martinitz refused to accept the Portfolio of Public Instruction, and in regard to his acceptance of the Ministry of the Interior, he put conditions which were rejected; he has, therefore, returned to his post of Governor of Cracow. Count Golochowski, chief of the Lemberg Government district, has been summoned hither to join the Imperial Commission.

Well-informed persons assert that the Constitution which the commission is about to work out will be characterised by the principle of decentralisation, by the re-establishment of the representation of the provinces (*Landstände*), by great prerogatives given to the aristocracy of all the provinces, and lastly by a strict Catholic spirit.

A private letter from Vienna announces that a manifesto is being prepared at the Imperial printing-office, which the young Grand Duke of Tuscany proposes to address to the people of his country on the day when the Conferences of Zurich shall have closed. The document is said to be drawn up in a very liberal sense. The Prince promises a constitution based on a system of national representation similar to that which exists in Sardinia. He also proposes the removal of numerous abuses in the administration.

According to despatches from Vienna, the Austrian Government will not communicate with that of Piedmont about passports, or the ordinary service of national intercommunication. This is a strange beginning of the "Confederation!"

PRUSSIA.

The King of Prussia is evidently fast dying. We learn from Berlin that the greatest anxiety prevailed on account of his Majesty's present dangerous condition. It is doubted whether he will ever recover from the state of unconsciousness in which he was plunged from the moment when the attack of apoplexy came on.

The Prussian Government has proposed to the Conference of the Zollverein that the iron duties be abolished by degrees, at periods fixed beforehand. A storm of petitions from the iron districts in Westphalia and Silesia against this project will, we are informed, not turn the Government from its purpose. There is, however, but small chance that the Zollverein Conference, which votes by unanimity, will entertain the proposition.

The Berlin correspondent of the *Times* says the Prince Regent has signed an order for the re-organisation of the Prussian army. The object is to proportion the means of national defence to the population and resources of the country. It is determined to return to the original system, by which every man capable of bearing arms is bound to serve, so that in case of necessity the army will number upwards of 700,000 men.

GERMANY.

The Bavarian Chamber of Deputies, in respect to the motion for the formation of a central power in Germany, have resolved, on the 12th, after discussing the motion to reject it, by passing to the order of the day with eighty-seven votes against forty-five.

The military riots at Mayence have been followed by others of a more serious nature in the neighbour-

ing city of Frankfort, the seat of the German Federal Diet, where fighting in the streets with side-arms takes place daily between the Prussian soldiers on one side, and the Austrian, Bavarian, and Frankfort troops on the other, and where the lives of the civil population seem no longer to be safe in consequence.

RUSSIA.

The *Invalid Russ* publishes an article insisting that a Congress be assembled for the settlement of the Italian question.

The *St. Petersburg Gazette* considers that there are serious obstacles to the establishment of an Italian Confederation—

"How," it asks, "can absolutist Austria, theocratic Rome, constitutional Piedmont, the Two Sicilies, Parma, Tuscany, and Modena be amalgamated? What measures can be adopted for the uniform development of the moral and productive forces of the nation? How can unity be established, and discord be prevented? Must Piedmont make the sacrifice of her liberal innovations to Rome or Vienna, or must the contrary take place? These grave questions," it adds, "can only be decided by a congress."

It must be observed that the whole of the Russian journals are constantly harping on the necessity of an European congress—not merely on Italian matters, but also on others, where they say future strife can thus alone be prevented.

The Russian Government has begun the construction of the telegraphic line which is to run from Moscow right across the North of Asia to the mouth of the Amoor, on the Pacific Ocean. The whole length will exceed 2,600 leagues. A project has been drawn up for continuing the line to the coast of America, which affords great facilities for laying the cable to connect the two continents.

TURKEY.

Advices have been received from Constantinople to the 6th instant:—The Sultan has returned from his journey. He has sanctioned the double election of Prince Couzi, with the condition that Prince Couzi is to come to Constantinople to render homage to the Sultan. M. de Thouvenel has arrived here. It is confirmed that the town of Erzeroum has been entirely destroyed by a fresh earthquake. News from Smyrna of the 5th instant announces the death of the Governor-General.

AMERICA.

President Buchanan, in a letter declining a nomination for the Presidency, says:—

My determination not, under any circumstances, to become a candidate for re-election is final and conclusive. My best judgment and strong inclination unite in favour of this course. To cast doubts upon my predetermined purpose is calculated to impair my influence in carrying out important measures, and affords a pretext for saying that these measures have been dictated by a desire to be re-nominated.

Partial returns of the state election in Kentucky indicate the election of the democratic candidate for Governor, and a majority of democrats to Congress.

The *New York Herald* says:—

We published the news of the cession in sovereignty to Great Britain, by the so-called Republic of Guatimala, of the establishment and territory hitherto known as British Honduras, or Belize. As no doubt exists of the acceptance of the cession by Great Britain, we may regard the acquisition as a *fait accompli*, and recognise the fact of a new British colonial establishment on the American continent—thus completing the chain of English possessions from Canada to Demerara. The fact is a practical commentary on the value of the "Munroe doctrine," as supported by the United States, and a scarcely less striking instance of the value and efficiency of American diplomacy in Central America. It only now remains for Great Britain to consolidate her pretensions on the Mosquito shore, in order to insure her control of two-thirds of the Atlantic coast of Central America, from Yucatan to Panama. She already dominates the entire country from her stronghold of the Bay Islands, which she has colonised and occupies, in contempt alike of the Munroe doctrine and the Clayton-Bulwer treaty.

The papers give lengthy details of the rescue from a convent of a daughter of the Hon. J. Leander Star. This had occasioned considerable excitement.

There was a dreadful accident on the Northern Railroad, near Albany, on the night of the 2nd inst. The accident occurred near Schaghticoke, to a train en route for Albany. The train, while passing over the bridge which spans the Tomhannock, was precipitated into the creek below, a distance of twenty to twenty-five feet. The water was about seven or eight feet deep, and over thirteen persons are reported to have lost their lives. Nine dead bodies had been recovered at eleven o'clock, and more were supposed to be in the water. About twenty persons were more or less wounded. The moment the train struck the bridge the structure gave way, and a great portion of the train was precipitated into the abyss, but, singular to say, the locomotive got across the bridge, and became detached from the tender.

We have Californian advices to the 11th of July. Business was more active at San Francisco, but there was no improvement in prices. Great excitement existed in Nevada and Eldorado counties, in consequence of the discovery of new and extensive gold diggings on Walker's River, east of the Sierra Nevada. Some destructive fires had occurred in Sierra and Nevada counties.

Much excitement had been occasioned at Panama and on the Isthmus generally by the accidental opening of some of the India graves in the Chiriqui district, and the discovery therein of large quantities of golden images, gods, &c. As there are supposed to be many thousands of these graves equally wealthy, many hundreds of persons had gone thither,

and many thousands of dollars' worth had been taken out and sent to Panama.

Central American advices state that the terms of the Belly transit grant from Nicaragua are not such as to encourage the hope of an opening of the route by the French interest.

From South America it is reported that small progress had been made in the Ecuadorian revolution. It was still uncertain which party was uppermost. The blockade of Guayaquil was maintained. The Government of Peru was busy in preparations for war, a simultaneous campaign against Ecuador and Bolivia being in contemplation.

Private despatchers from Northern Mexico state that it is expected within the next three months that 3,000 American troops will be organised on the Rio Grande, properly armed and equipped, for the purpose of marching upon the city of Mexico. On the 22nd of July General Degollado was at Tampico, actively preparing for a new campaign. General Garcia had issued a proclamation, at Matamoros, calling the liberals to arms. A conducta, with 600,000 dols. in specie, was on its way to Matamoros. The Juarez decree had been most enthusiastically received. The 5,000,000 conducta was on its way to Brownsville. It was reported that Santa Anna was at Caquetá, but this was not believed.

The 1st of August, the anniversary of the British emancipation, was observed in various parts of the United States. Both coloured people and white people took part in the proceedings, and some of the best speeches were made by the former, and by women as well as by men.

CAPE OF GOOD HOPE.

The late dates from the Cape are to the 5th of July. The accounts from the frontier were of the most satisfactory nature, and tranquillity prevailed in the different provinces.

The Governor of the Cape, Sir George Grey, was on the eve of departure for England, and as her Majesty's ship *Perserverance* was about to leave Natal for England with Captain Conolly's Artillery, it was believed that his excellency would come home in that vessel.

The executive council of Transvaal Republic have informed Sir George Grey that there is no intention on the part of the inhabitants of that State to attack the missionary station of Kuruman, occupied by the venerable Moffatt.

The latest dates from Mauritius are to the 22nd ult. The new system of immigration, authorising engagements to be made with emigrants in India, had come into force.

MADAGASCAR.

Advices from the Cape state that the French had made a successful attack on Bally, on the north-west coast of Madagascar.

The French military station at Reunion was likely to be in want of provisions, &c., in consequence of the Hova authorities at Tamatova refusing to allow French vessels to take away oxen for the Island of Reunion.

INDIA.

The Governor-General had ordered that Thursday, the 28th of July, should be kept as a day of thanksgiving for the restoration of peace in India.

The difficulty with the European troops is thus referred to by the *Times* correspondent:—

The affair of the 5th Europeans is over, and the quarrel between the soldiers of the old army and the Government may be considered settled. There was something so comic mixed up with the proceedings of the men at Berhampore, something so utterly bizarre and unexpected in some of their acts, that you will find even officers disposed to treat the mutiny with contempt. It was, however, a serious affair. The regiment was about 600 strong, and had expressed its opinion in the matter of the transfer with offensive clearness. It continued, however, to do duty until the arrival of some deserters from Allahabad, who taunted the men with doing unnecessary duty. Nearly 500 of the men hereupon refused to do any duty whatever, upon which the commanding officer, Major Maitland, ordered the officers to withdraw. This step exasperated the men, as it implied a danger of assassination, and they elected officers of their own; one Marshall being chosen colonel, and assisted by a major, two captains, and four sergeants. Major Maitland now withdrew all servants, punkah coolies, rum, and, in fact, everything except rations, which it was impossible to stop without an explosion. Fortunately for all parties, Marshall turned out a man of some capacity and resolution. He threatened to flog the first man caught looting, and carried his menace into execution. Another man, guilty of disrespect, received fifty lashes, and the regiment was brought into a state of discipline to which it was entirely unaccustomed. The men played cricket under their officers' noses, but otherwise remained quiet enough, opening, however, a correspondence with the 6th at Hazareebagh. At last, on the 26th of June, Colonel Kenneth Mackenzie, Deputy-Adjutant-General—not Colonel Colin Mackenzie, who only went up to protect Moorshedabad—arrived with 1,000 men of her Majesty's 99th and the Buffs, and four guns. He placed his men and offered the mutineers twenty-four hours to consider themselves. If at the expiration of that time they returned to duty, a court of inquiry would be held into their grievances; if not he should employ force. The men, thirty-nine excepted, submitted, and the recusants were arrested. The court of inquiry is now sitting, but it seems perfectly understood that the men will be simply discharged. I feel very doubtful whether even the ringleaders will be punished. The discharge will apparently be nearly universal. Of fifty recruits at Barrackpore, all demanded it except two. All the men in the arsenal took it at once, and even the Governor-General's band declared their resolution to "resign." The 5th, it is known, will go *en masse*, and letters begin to come in speaking of discharges by the

hundred. We shall, in fact, lose the whole substance of the Company's European army, which has thus, like its native comrade, committed suicide. The men calculate on a pleasant voyage to England without work, three months' holiday at home, and re-enlistment on fresh bounty. They share, moreover, the feeling of dislike to the country, now so lamentably strong even among officers, and have been, finally, idle in the tropics for months.

The Supreme Council at Calcutta has been reduced to one man—Sir James Outram. Sir Barnes Peacock has taken his seat in the Supreme Court, Sir B. Frere is still in Scinde, and Mr. Ricketts is away sick at the Neilgherries. Mr. Harrington, member for the North-West, has accordingly been called to the Council for the nonce—a step almost without a precedent.

THE WAR IN COCHIN-CHINA.

The news from Cochin-China is very unfavourable to the French, who appear to have suffered very severely from climate, and were much in want of reinforcements. The Amanees appear to have behaved with considerable courage and skill, and they had even attacked the French intrenchments, and killed fifty men and one officer before they were repulsed. The latest accounts, however, state they were desirous of treating for peace, and we doubt if the French, weakened as they are, would reject a good opportunity of retiring with honour and advantage.

FOREIGN MISCELLANY.

The King of Sardinia has sent the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Annunziato to Count Walewski.

After several tumultuous meetings of the Hamburg people, the assembly of the burgeses, legally convoked for Friday, accepted the new constitution proposed by the Senate.

Advices from Herzegovina of the 21st ult. state that that province, as well as Albania, was in a state of great agitation. A revolt had broken out at Bentes, and Dervisch Pacha, who commands the Ottoman troops, has left Mostar to attack the insurgents.

A new journal, established for the purpose of advocating the cause of Italian independence and of social reforms, is to make its appearance in Paris on the 16th of August next, under the title "*L'Opinion Nationale*." The chief editor of the paper will be M. Gueroult, former editor of *La Presse*, who will be assisted by M. de Sauley, M. Azevedo, M. Champfleury, and M. About.

THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.

The aspect of matters has not materially changed since our last. Various small meetings were held by the men on Saturday in different parts of the town, but nothing decisive was done. The most favourable feature was, that there was in general a more conciliatory disposition observable on the part of the workmen. From some calculations that have been published it would appear that the magnitude of the turn-out, or lock-out, has been somewhat exaggerated—in fact, that only the very large establishments have been closed.

A meeting of working men was held on Sunday at the East end of London, which was addressed at length by Mr. Ernest Jones. He urged the men to go in for Parliamentary Reform, as the only real cure for their grievances. There were 2,000 persons present.

The Trades' Conference have published an address in reply to that of the masters, in which they enter into a defence of the policy of the strike, to which the Secretary of the Masters' Association has responded.

The following builders opened their yards on Monday:—Mr. Sergant, of Camden Town, employing upwards of eighty men; Mr. Morris, Park-street, Grosvenor-square, employing about forty; Mr. Jackson, Rathbone-place, about forty; Mr. Lawrence, Brook-street, New-road, about fifty; Mr. Warne, Soho-square, about forty; and Mr. Potter, Great Pulteney-street. It has not been ascertained whether the full complement of workmen have been called in, but, whatever the number be, they have gone in, it appears, without subscribing to any terms.

A meeting of the bricklayers was held on Monday in St. George's Hall, near the Elephant and Castle. The meeting had the same object in view as the one held a short time ago by the masons. A resolution, proposed by Mr. Noble, and seconded by Mr. Brown, which pledged the meeting not to go to work for any employer that required a signature to any document or agreement, was adopted.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE REGISTRAR-GENERAL.

The twentieth annual report of the Registrar-General was published on Monday. He says:—

1,401,080 names have been inscribed in the national registers during the year. 318,194 persons married. The births of 603,071 children, and the deaths of 419,815 persons of all ages, were registered. Neither the births nor the deaths of stillborn children are registered; their numbers consequently do not appear in the tables.

The birth exceeded the deaths by 243,256, and that is somewhat below the number expressing the natural increase of the population, as all the births are not registered, owing to a defect in the English Registration Act.

The recorded natural increase of the population of England and Wales exceeded 600 daily.

I pointed out in the nineteenth annual report the difficulty of determining the exact population of the country until the next census is taken. By the method there

described, the population of England and Wales must have been nearly 19,384,897 in the middle of the year 1857. The annual rate of increase was 1·364 per cent. by this method.

The births exceeded by 5,618 the births in the year 1856; and the deaths also exceeded the deaths in that year by a much larger number, namely, 29,309.

The emigration from the United Kingdom became more active after the Russian war; and in the year 1857 the emigrants amounted to 212,875, of whom 78,560 were ascertained to be natives of England. By taking a proportional part of the numbers of unascertained birthplaces, the English emigrants will be raised to 86,348, of whom 9,192 sailed to British North America, 39,375 to the Australian Colonies and New Zealand, 37,333 to the United States, and 448 to other places.

Thus 236 English people on an average left England daily; but it is probable that the numbers were replaced by Scottish, Irish, and other immigrants.

The marriage rate is obtained by comparing the number of persons married in a year with the number of persons living; and thence deducing the proportions. Thus in the year to every 100,000 persons living, 1,648 married. The births were at the rate of 3,435, the deaths at the rate of 2,175, to every 100,000 living.

The average rates per cent. per annum during the twenty years were as follows:—The marriage rate 1·634, the birth rate 3·293, the death rate 2·232. The three rates during the last year were 1·648, 3·435, and 2·175. The marriage rate and the birth rate were above, the death rate was below the average.

These rates may be stated in another way; on an average of twenty years 1 in 61 of the people married annually, 1 in 45 died annually, and 1 child was born alive annually to every 30 persons living. During the last year these proportions became 1 in 61, 1 in 46, and 1 in 29.

The facts show that upon the whole the people were prosperous and healthy during the year.

Some unfavourable effects of the high temperature became apparent during the autumn, and partial outbreaks of a new epidemic were observed.

Postscript.

Wednesday, August 17, 1859.

LATEST FOREIGN NEWS.

THE NAPOLEON FETE IN MILAN AND TURIN.

MILAN, Monday, August 15.

To-day a *déjeuner* was given by the King to Marshal Vaillant, and 100 superior officers of the French army at the Royal Palace. His Majesty proposed the health of his Imperial Majesty Napoleon III., Prince Carignan that of the Empress and the Imperial Prince, General de la Marmora that of the French army, and Marshal Vaillant proposed the health of the King of Sardinia, concluding his speech with these words:—

"To the Chief of this fine and powerful army, the standards of which were united on the Black Sea, and on the plains of the Po, with the French eagle, and which on every occasion showed itself as a noble rival of our army. To the heroic King, who holds the ancient and noble sword of the House of Savoy, who made it shine with great lustre in the sun of Palestro and Solferino."

MILAN, Monday, August 15.

To-day, at Milan, a solemn *fête* was celebrated in honour of Napoleon. In the morning a *Te Deum* was performed in the Cathedral in the presence of the King, Marshal Vaillant, and other officers, the magistrates, and the national guard in grand gala.

After dinner a grand *spectacle* took place in the arena, the expenses of which were defrayed by the municipality, and the receipts destined for the wounded.

The King, Prince Carignan, Marshal Vaillant, and about 40,000 people were present. The name of Napoleon was received everywhere with acclamations.

TURIN, Monday, Aug. 15.

The *fête de nuit*, which took place here, was magnificent. The Place d'Armes was splendidly illuminated, a great platform was erected for the performance of military music, where the soldiers danced. The crowd was immense, the public buildings were illuminated. Many inscriptions were to be seen:—"Long live Napoleon III."

THE FETE IN PARIS.

Writing on Monday evening, the Paris correspondent of the *Daily News* says:—

The Fête Napoleon is this year a holiday, and but little more. The grand affair of yesterday has, so to speak, taken the wind out of its sails. The gratis performances at the theatre were, as usual, well attended; the usual open-air exhibitions have been going on in the Place des Invalides, and there will be the usual fireworks in the evening; but the illuminations in the Place de la Concorde and the Champs Elysées will be poor indeed in comparison with what we have been in the habit of seeing for many years past on August 15th. Instead of those myriads of lights which were wont to form long walls of light in the grand avenue, there is but a single row of little Vauxhall lamps, and one row of Chinese lanterns under them. The illuminations in the Tuilleries and at some of the public buildings will, however, be brilliant. A little economy in the decorations of to-day was highly necessary, for the expenses of yesterday were tremendous. So much has been said about them, that the municipality has thought it necessary to promulgate the statement, that the contribution from the city funds towards them was only 20,000 francs. The rest of the money came from "other sources," which are not clearly indicated, but are sug-

gested to mean the surplus of the last war loan. To-day the public flocked more to the Boulevards and the Place Vendôme, to see the decorations of yesterday, than to the localities specially designated for the amusements of this annual festival. Vast numbers went to the St. Maur to see the soldiers once more. The fair at the Barrière du Trône, on account of its proximity to Vincennes, formed a much more powerful diversion than usual to the attractions of the west end of the town. There were, however, great crowds in the Place des Invalides in the middle of the day, when the weather was fine and pleasant, with a cooling breeze. It rained for two or three hours in the morning, and it is raining again while I write.

THE CONFERENCE AT ZURICH.

BERNE, August 16.
To-day the Plenipotentiaries to the Conference witnessed the opening of the Railway to Waldshut. Yesterday the plenipotentiaries, their secretaries, and a deputation of the Zurich Government, were present at a banquet given by M. de Bourquenay on the occasion of the *fête* of the Emperor.

The President Dubois proposed the health of the Emperor; M. de Bourquenay and M. de Banville, that of the Swiss Confederation and of the Zurich Government.

BERNE, Tuesday, August 16.

A confidential report announces that the government of Naples is disposed to accede to the wishes which have been expressed to it by the national Counsellor Latour in respect to the Swiss regiments.

The Plenipotentiaries of the three Powers at Zurich have accepted the invitation of the Federal Council to visit Berne.

THE DUCHIES.

TURIN, Tuesday, August 16.

MODENA, AUGUST 15.—The elections have taken place in admirable order. A great number of people took part in the elections, and distinguished persons and honourable patriots of all classes of society have been elected. General Fanti, Marquis Fontanelli, Comte Rangoni, Chevalier Malmusi, Achille Menotti, Chevalier Chiesi, and Professor Lini are amongst those elected. The town and all other places in the Duchy are *en fête*.

THE ALLEGED REPUBLICAN MOVEMENT IN PARMA.

COUNT LINATI, the Mayor of Parma, who is now in Paris on a mission to the Emperor, has addressed the following letter to the *Patrie*:

Certain journals have spoken of a republican movement as having broken out in the city of Parma. You are authorised to give the most positive contradiction to this piece of false news. It would be easy to trace this malicious statement to its source; we need only inquire who are they whose interests are hostile to those of the duchy. In the name of the city of Parma, of which I have the honour to be mayor, I request you to declare that the most perfect order has not for a single instant ceased to prevail both in the town and the duchy. The people are too well aware of the importance of a regular and legitimate manifestation of their wishes to quit the path of legality for one moment. Unanimously resolved as they are to resist by every means— even by force, if necessary—any and every idea or attempt to restore the old dynasty, they are organising actively, and their votes will on this very day prove to Europe that their one and only desire, conformably to their moral and material interests, is to be definitively exiled to Piedmont under the constitutional sceptre of the House of Savoy.

Receive, Monsieur le Redacteur, the assurance of my distinguished consideration.

COUNT PHILIPPE LINATI, Mayor of Parma.

Paris, August 14.

The provisional governor of Parma has decreed a voluntary loan of 2,400,000fr. at 5 per cent., to be called the Parmese loan of 1859.

TUSCANY.

M. Tito Coppi, who has just been nominated president of the National Assembly at Florence, is honorary judge and was formerly President of the Court of Appeal, and is one of the most eminent magistrates of Tuscany. He took no part in the recent political movements, and consequently the choice of him by the Assembly may be considered a proof of impartiality and prudence. Notwithstanding his advanced age, great reliance is placed on his talents and experience to maintain calm and dignity in the deliberations.

The National Guard of Florence entered upon its duties for the first time on the 7th, having been equipped and organised in a few weeks.

THE WEST INDIES.—THE COOLIE TRADE.

By the Panama, which reached Southampton yesterday, we have the West India and Pacific mails. There is no news of a political character. The Paramatta was still on shore, and in the same condition as reported by preceding accounts. In the islands and at Demerara the crops were good, but business was dull.

In the Demerara Court of Policy, on the 12th of July, his excellency the Governor read over an official notice from Sir John Bowring, her Majesty's Plenipotentiary and Chief Superintendent in China, and a proclamation from the chief magistrate of the districts of Nanhai and Pwanyu, relative to abuses and atrocities committed in Canton and the neighbourhood, in the shipment of Coolies to foreign countries. His excellency also read over the reply of Governor Keate to the proposal made in May last for a co-operation between Trinidad and British Guiana in procuring immigrants from India and China. This reply was said to be so far favourable that the Council of Government and Governor Keate were desirous of the co-operation referred to, but provision

had been already made for Chinese immigration during the coming season, and an agent had also been sent to Calcutta.

THE SPURGEON TABERNACLE.

Yesterday the ceremony of laying the foundation-stone of this long-talked-of building was performed in the presence of from 3,000 to 5,000 persons. The site of the proposed building is well chosen, and with a due regard to the requirements of that extraordinary popularity which the reverend preacher who is to minister within its walls has attained. It covers a large portion of the piece of waste ground adjoining the great Surrey horse bazaar, at the corner of the St. George's and Newington-roads, and being immediately opposite the Elephant and Castle—the focus of omnibus communication south of the Thames—offers facilities of easy and cheap conveyance to the reverend gentleman's admirers in whatever part of the town they may reside. The whole chapel is intended to accommodate no less than 5,000 persons with comfort. The fronts of the galleries will be of ornamental cast-iron; with enriched cat-irons columns supporting the galleries and rising from the upper tier to the roof, which they carry on a series of small and beautifully curved arches. Though no great efforts have been made in the way of ornamentation, yet the proportions of the interior are good, and the effect of the whole when finished will be handsome and striking. Mr. Pococke is the architect, and the whole design certainly does him credit. The facilities for entering and leaving the building are most ample, there being no less than sixteen doors to the chapel. Each gallery has its separate door and staircase, and all the staircases are of solid stone. The cost of the building is to be 21,500*l.*, but fittings and other matters will probably swell this amount to some 24,000*l.* or 25,000*l.* before the edifice is opened for divine service, which can hardly be earlier than the spring of 1861. Of course, like all other buildings, it is affected by the present strike, and no progress can be made till the masters and workmen have settled their dispute one way or the other.

Most of the visitors were in their places by two o'clock, at which time Sir S. M. Peto, accompanied by Mr. Spurgeon, Mr. John Spurgeon, and other ministers connected with the Baptist persuasion, ascended to the platform. The Old Hundredth Psalm having been sung, and a prayer by Mr. Spurgeon, the statement of the Deacon was then read, giving a sketch of the pastors and antecedents of the Baptist persuasion in Southwark from the year 1652.

At the conclusion of this statement Sir S. M. Peto proceeded to lay the stone, underneath which Mr. Spurgeon then placed a bottle, containing a copy of the Bible, of the Baptist's Catechism, of Dr. Ripon's Hymn Book, and the programme of the day's proceedings, in the cavity prepared for it. When these formalities had been gone through, the stone was slowly lowered into its place, and declared by Sir S. M. Peto to be well and duly fixed.

Sir S. M. Peto, M.P., in addressing the spectators, said that he congratulated his fellow-Christians and his excellent friend Mr. Spurgeon, and all who were then assembled, on the completion of the interesting event to which they had looked forward with so much interest for some time past.

He was aware that it might be said that the Music-hall and other large places were available for the preaching of Mr. Spurgeon, and would afford him an opportunity of making known the unsearchable riches of Christ. But then there were other institutions in connexion with an edifice of this kind. They had to provide, not only for the assembling of the church within its walls, but for opportunities of gathering youth for the purposes of instruction; and when he found that the edifice about to be raised would accommodate 2,000 Sunday school children, and 5,000 persons who would form the congregation, he felt that not only the church but the world might be amply accommodated, while at the same time they would be able to train up the youths in the way they should go. (Cheers.) He rejoiced to hear that the church, though strictly denominational, would be in no respect sectarian. While believing that there was no other mode of baptism than that prefigured in the Scriptures—being buried with Christ in baptism—his rev. friend Mr. Spurgeon would at the same time proclaim that truth in such a spirit that all who might differ from him would only regret the difference, while they loved him not the less. He wished also to state to his dear Christian friends that this church would not only be their church, but it would be a point from which Christian influence would emerge to the furthest ends of the world. His friend, in preaching the Gospel there, would not forget upon every fitting occasion to urge the claims of the heathen upon the attention of his church; and he rejoiced to know that while the hearts of the congregation would be sufficiently expansive to grasp the whole world those who were perishing at our own doors would not be forgotten or neglected. (Cheers.) There was a great work yet to be done, and those present, who were connected with other churches, had gladly come to their aid, and assured them that they would do all in their power to assist them in that work. (Cheers.) He could not but rejoice that this would be something of a cathedral to his denomination. It was quite right that they should have a Tabernacle in which not only the largest congregation could assemble, but which should, when schemes of Christian usefulness were to be promoted, be placed at the disposal of persons of any other denominations. (Cheers.) This metropolitan Tabernacle would therefore have claims upon other denominations.

The Rev. Mr. SPURGEON and the Rev. H. Dowson having each delivered a brief address, explanatory of the doctrines of the Baptists and of the objects they were met to carry out, a hymn was sung, and the avenues leading to the platform thrown open for all to see the stone, on which it was earnestly hoped the friends of the cause would place an offering as

they passed by. This appeal was most liberally responded to, the amount collected showing beyond a doubt that there was no lukewarmness on the part of the supporters of the proposed edifice.

A friend at Bristol, through Mr. E. T. Inskip, placed on the stone a check for the munificent sum of 3,000*l.* sterling. Mr. Inskip, while placing this generous contribution on the stone, stated that if forty gentlemen could be found to give 50*l.* each, or twenty to give 100*l.*, his friend would undertake to double the total amount. On the spot several gentlemen immediately accepted this challenge amid much cheering. Mr. Spurgeon himself laid down 100*l.*, Mr. Passmore 50*l.*, Mr. Morgan, 50*l.*, and Mr. James Low, 14*l.*. In addition to these there were many sums of 5*l.*, 10*l.*, 20*l.*, and 25*l.*, the total amount given being between 4,000*l.* and 5,000*l.*

In the evening a large number of Mr. Spurgeon's congregation assembled in the galleries over the late horse repository at a tea-meeting. Later in the evening a public meeting was held in the same place, when the objects and usefulness of the Tabernacle were forcibly pointed out by various speakers, and a liberal collection towards the expenses of the building was made at the close of the proceedings.

THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.

Yesterday a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Central Association of Master Builders was held at the Freemasons' Tavern, at one o'clock in the afternoon. The representatives of the press were not admitted. Mr. George Plucknett took the chair, and, after remaining in discussion for three hours and a half, it is stated that the masters intended to adhere to their determination of the 1st instant, which they embodied in a series of resolutions. The committee wished it to be publicly known that they in no way deviated from their original determination, and have pledged themselves to adhere strictly to the resolution of the 1st inst.—that until Messrs. Trollope's works are resumed no member of the association reopen his establishment, and that whenever Messrs. Trollope resume their work the members of the association should recommend engagements with their workmen on the basis of the agreement. The meeting adjourned until Tuesday next. It was further stated that all the resolutions were agreed to unanimously.

Last night a meeting of the delegates of the various united trades was held in the Shaftesbury Hall, Aldersgate-street, for the purpose of taking into consideration the best means to be adopted with reference to the present position of the building trade. At half-past eight o'clock Mr. Gray, a mason, was called to the chair. In the course of the proceedings Mr. Edwards, of the Tailors' Labour Agency, said he considered that both sides were partly in the wrong—the men in asking for nine hours, and the masters in proposing such an insulting document and asking the men to sign it. He believed that if steps were taken to carry the nine hours' movement at some future time it would be better, than in now persisting in the hostile course of sticking out for it at present. If the obnoxious document was withdrawn, he should be glad to see the men go to work, to Trollope's establishment included. Mr. Allan, of the Engineers, moved that the United Trades of the United Kingdom were bound to support the building trades in their present struggle. Mr. Burn seconded the motion. Mr. Edwards proposed an amendment, to the effect embodying the suggestion of his speech. As there was no seconder, the amendment fell to the ground. The original motion was then put, and carried unanimously. It was then resolved that the meeting adjourn until Tuesday next, and the proceedings terminated at a quarter past eleven o'clock.

THE RICHMOND POISONING CASE.—At the Central Criminal Court yesterday, the trial of Dr. Sandhurst was continued, and the case for the prosecution had not concluded when the court rose. The witnesses examined were Dr. Julius, the medical man who attended the deceased lady till her death; Dr. Bird, his partner, Mr. Cudle, their assistant, Dr. Buzzard, Surgeon Bowell, Dr. Wilks, of Guy's, and Dr. Todd, of King's College Hospital, and one or two other medical men of repute. The gist of the evidence given yesterday was, that, in the opinion of the witnesses Miss Banks died of small doses of irritant poison, incessantly administered. Dr. Julius deposed that no poisons were contained in any of the medicines dispensed from his establishment for deceased during her illness. The evidence for the prosecution will be continued to-day.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—It is said that Mr. Charles Capper, the manager of the Victoria Docks, has made a proposal on behalf of Mr. J. O. Lever, M.P., to charter the Great Eastern steamship for a voyage out and home—viz., from some safe port in Great Britain to some safe port in North America. The terms offered are 20,000*l.* The vessel to be provided with accommodation for 2,000 passengers, and to steam 14 knots an hour upon her trial trip. Mr. Lever to give satisfactory security for the due performance of the contract.

MARK-LANE—THIS DAY.

Only a limited supply of household and new English wheat was on offer here to-day. For most kinds there was a fair demand, at Monday's currency. Some of the new wheats appeared in excellent condition. Good and fine samples of foreign wheat were held at very full prices; but the transactions in them were by no means extensive. In low and damp qualities next to nothing was doing. Floating cargoes of grain supported late prices. The few samples of barley on offer were taken on former terms. Malt met a dull inquiry. Prices, however, were supported. The oat trade was tolerably active, at full quotations. The show of samples was tolerably good. Beans, pea, and flour were a slow inquiry, at late rates.

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TO CORRESPONDENTS.

"A Constant Reader." We will reply in our next number.

We have not space for the letter on the Coolie traffic this week.

The Nonconformist.
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 17, 1859.

SUMMARY.

PARLIAMENT was prorogued on Saturday by Royal Commission. The Queen's speech in dismissing the Legislature, though suitable to the occasion, is necessarily brief and trite, containing congratulations on "the general well-being and contentment" of the people, on the complete restoration of tranquillity in India, and the expression of confidence in "the continued maintenance of those friendly relations which so happily subsist between her Majesty and all foreign Powers and States"—a form of expression not so reassuring as the usual stereotyped phrase. The allusion to a "permanent system of national defence" points to a continuance of the large estimates of the present session. The paragraphs that refer to Italy state that her Majesty's Ministers, while anxious to assist in arrangements "calculated to place the general peace on a satisfactory and lasting foundation," have "not yet received the information necessary to enable her Majesty to decide whether she may think fit to take part in any such negotiations." Not till the Zurich Conference has formally closed its sittings is any decision likely to be made. It is surmised that matters do not proceed smoothly in that diplomatic assembly. An agreement has been made that the armistice shall be indefinitely prolonged, but the important questions of the Duchies and the proposed Confederation seem to be insoluble. At present Russia appears to be the only Power that strongly advocates a European Congress.

Before the close of the session interesting debates took place in both Houses on Indian subjects. Another Indian loan of five millions in the money market has convinced our legislators that something must be done to equalise the income and expenditure of our Eastern Empire. "We must have a considerable reduction of our large military force in India" is the language not only of the Earl of Ellenborough, but of Sir Charles Wood and Colonel Sykes; and Ministers, by the Bill discussed last week, have wisely resolved to retain a considerable local European army, instead of placing the whole military resources of India under the control of the Horse Guards. It is to be observed that our military authorities are much more moderate than heretofore in their estimate of the number of troops required to be permanently maintained in India. Such is the wholesome result of a guaranteed loan in the distance. Indian finances enjoy a place of prominence even in the prorogation speech. "The financial arrangements of that portion of her Majesty's empire will continue to engage her Majesty's serious attention." This voluntary pledge will, we trust, be fully redeemed. A great deal may be done to fulfil it if the Government give such instructions and power to Mr. James Wilson, who is about to proceed to India in the capacity of Chancellor of the Exchequer, as will enable him thoroughly to investigate the intricacies of Indian finance.

The Emperor Napoleon's speech to his generals at the banquet following the grand reception of the army of Italy by the Parisians, contains nothing that foreshadows his future policy; but the language of the semi-official organs is ambiguous, and scarcely consists with the prophecy that a long period of peace is to follow the war in Italy. M. de Cassagnac's gasconade would be beneath notice were it not inspired by the Tuilleries. His flattery of the military passions of the generals is perilous work. An army, flushed with victory, is more likely to prove the master than the servant of its head. At present, however, the Emperor has his fill of glory. The *frêle Napoléon* has proved a great success, and the volatile Parisians applaud to the echo their successful military ruler. With equal heartiness, though on a smaller scale, Turin and Milan have vied with the French capital in demonstrations of rejoicing on this occasion. Something of this revived Italian enthusiasm is probably due to a belief that Louis Napoleon will still prove to be their liberator. Hence their contentment at the retention of 50,000 French troops in Italy, and their belief that the Emperor has no objection to allow matters to take such a course as will make the return of the fugitive Dukes impossible.

Every week produces events that tend to deepen the interest of the friends of freedom in the problem now being solved in Central Italy. "If," said Lord John Russell, in his admirable speech on Italy last week, "you allow the people of Italy, whether they have hitherto lived under the rule of the King of Sardinia, or of the Grand Duke of Tuscany, or of the Duke of Modena, under the Pope, or under the King of the Two Sicilies, to settle with their sovereigns on what terms they shall pay their allegiance, there will no longer exist the irritation and discontent which have long prevailed, but they will proceed with peace and order to establish the foundations of good government." The prophecy of our Foreign Minister is in process of fulfilment. We have adverted elsewhere to the dignified bearing of the Tuscan National Assembly. The same spirit is observable in other parts of Central Italy. The reported Red-Republican revolution in Parma turns out to be a vile Austrian *canard*. Count Linati, the mayor of Parma, now on a mission to the Emperor Napoleon in Paris, declares "that the most perfect order has not for a single instant ceased to prevail both in the town and the duchy." The vote relative to annexation to Piedmont was about to be taken by universal suffrage, and there is every reason to believe that it will be as satisfactory and peaceful as in the sister State. Meanwhile the Parmesans are raising a voluntary loan to equip the contingent that is to join the army of Central Italy under Garibaldi, and they have joined the league that now unites in a defensive alliance Tuscany, Modena, Parma, and the Legations. But it is in the latter district, that the words of our Foreign Minister are most literally and gloriously fulfilled. "Nothing," says a writer on the spot, "can come up to the ease with which public order is maintained by a population which has now a full control over itself, and which, only one month ago, 2,000 Swiss and ever so many thousand Austrians found utterly unmanageable. The same quiet and security are equally remarkable in town and country. Last year the roads were scarcely practicable and the villas hardly habitable owing to the bands of malefactors with which the provinces swarmed. But these evils are only compatible with priestly government, and it would seem as if the Cardinal Legates had taken robbers and brigands along with them and with the ruffianly *sbirri*, who were manifestly charged with the suppression of crime, but seemed to find their interest in its diffusion and perpetration." It is the Austrians and their priestly tool, then, that are the revolutionists and anarchists!

The latest news from British Guiana, it will be seen, fully corroborates the belief we have expressed elsewhere, that the Coolie emigrants to our colonies obtained in China are kidnapped and deluded instead of being parties to an honest contract. While adverting to this subject, we may call attention to a letter in another column from the Secretary of the African Civilisation Society, who has visited England for the purpose of furthering a scheme for enabling a part of the coloured population of the United States to settle in a district of Western Africa highly favourable to the growth of cotton. By this means, it is hoped free coloured labour may be made to compete successfully with slave labour in the production of that important article.

The Cape mail brings the welcome intelligence that Kuruman, the mission station of the venerable Robert Moffat, is now safe from the inroads of the Boers. It appears also that the long-expected war between the French and Madagascar has broken out.

PARIS AND FLORENCE.

The spectacle got up at Paris to celebrate the peace of Villafranca suggests many a topic for grave reflection—but we turn from it, as we have no doubt our readers will, with the weariness and disgust inspired by all things that are at once glittering and unreal. We prefer Florence to Paris at this moment—the quiet earnestness of a people striving to work out for themselves a worthy destiny, to the flashy insincerity of an Emperor, eliciting noisy but heartless *vivas* from his subjects. *Fêtes* never had any strong attraction for us—but when they are "outward and visible signs" to which there is nothing within that is answerable, they oppress our spirits more sensibly than funeral gloom; as, to our mind, there is nothing more melancholy than the boisterous laugh of one who is sick at heart. An elaborate representation of joy where there is no joy beneath it, is sorry work even for an individual—but, alas! for the nation that is condemned to cheat itself into spasmodical hilarity, and to accept tinselled gewgaws as veritable gold and precious stones! alas! for a people who can submissively accept a day's pleasure and a passing show, in lieu of the solution of a great national problem involving the welfare of millions!

We turn to Florence. That scene in the Hall of the Five Hundred, where, for the first time, the newly-elect Parliament of Tuscany meet to organise themselves, presents attractions infinitely more powerful than the defiling of the Army of Italy before the Emperor Napoleon in the Place Vendôme. That small horse-shoe of benches, three deep, ranged round a President's chair, occupied by a hundred and fifty representatives all attired in black, and fronting a thousand well-dressed auditors terribly in earnest, sets forth the superiority of moral over physical power. Here, then, is what Italy, if left to follow her own promptings, aims at developing—a Chamber of Councils that shall put wisdom into her laws, inspire sentiments of self-respect in her people, and found public order on popular content. We see as yet but the rudiments of self-government—but they have been brought together with a calm dignity that cannot but excite admiration. The élite of Tuscan society is found on those benches—men of rank, wealth, learning, patriotism, religion. They come to their duties fresh from the Cathedral, and they proceed to business with a staid and sober demeanour which ones unacquainted with their antecedents might easily mistake for coldness. Baron Ricasoli, the Home Minister of the Provisional Government, reads, with feeble voice and almost inaudible tones, a speech explaining and vindicating the situation. M. Poggi, the Minister of Grace and Justice, solemnly announces the opening of the Session. The names of the members are called over one by one. Ten Committees are constituted by Ballot—and they all retire to their respective Committee-rooms for the verification of their powers. In other times, the ceremony would be but a dry formality—but in these, the very dryness of it enhances its interest.

For, both we who look on, and they who take part in, that ceremonial are equally conscious of the danger that broods over the chief actors in those proceedings. It is as though we were watching the conduct of a man who calmly sits down to his desk to write his will, when his house, his property, and even his life, are all at the mercy of bandits prowling without. The more trivial his actions, the less there appears of excitement, the more deeply we are moved by the self-possession which enables him to discharge a present duty quite irrespectively of impending peril. The Tuscan Parliament meets to record the will of the Tuscan people. On the one side of them is the chafed and irritated Emperor of Austria—on the other, the scheming but impenetrable Emperor of the French. When, after their bloody strife, they shook hands at Villafranca, they announced their pleasure that the Grand Duke should return to the throne from which he had fled and been deposed. Tuscany will have none of him, or of his race—and this Parliament meets for the purpose of assenting to the will of the Tuscan people against that of both the great military despots. In the face of Europe, it is about to record its determination to regard the expressed wishes of its constituent body as paramount to the decrees of foreign emperors, armed to the teeth though they may be. What may become of their work they know not, or whether it will be permitted to stand. They cannot look into the deep recesses of that mind that conceals, for the present, their future destiny. But, at least, they will do their part, and do it as men who have an unquenchable faith in the right. No hurry—no confusion—no noise—no disregard of decorum—no ebullition of excited passion—no! these men evince no signs of inaptitude for self-mastery. They get through their preliminaries with a quiet carefulness positively sublime—and the cold calm which

pervades their demeanour indicates the depth of their patriotic devotion. That scene in the Hall of the Five Hundred will not be lost upon Europe. It will impress upon the most unsusceptible hearts the feeling that Italy deserves a better fate than to be worried into insurrection by the jealousies of dynastic ambition.

There is good reason for believing that such as Tuscany has showed herself, such also would the Duchies and the Legations—were the opportunity allowed them. There are seeds of mischief in all of them to quicken into crime under the influence of foreign intrigue. But, however it may have been in the past, it is evident enough that, at present, the bane of Italy is foreign domination. The ruling families who pretend to rights over her, like the doctors who quarrel over the patient whom they are killing, are the real cause of Italy's weakness. Sweep them out of the path, and there is nothing insurmountable in the way of either her unity or her freedom. This was probably as true ten years ago as it is now, but its truth was not equally apparent. Royal or Imperial Houses would do well to ponder this fact. It were better for them not to teach Europe to regard them as the "troublemakers of Israel." If, instead of being commonly reputed as the conservators of order, they force people to regard them as the instigators of disorder—if their most solemn pledges come to be generally looked upon as less to be relied on than dicers' oaths—if, in a word, the European communities are compelled by their vagaries to hold them as madmen with sharp weapons in their clutch—the end of their selfish glory will be nigh at hand. Modern civilisation can patiently tolerate much evil at the hands of its rulers—but it will not for ever stand by in silence to see its main objects disturbed and destroyed by the dynastic intrigues and sanguinary broils of a handful of Sovereigns.

Tidings from Vienna by telegram reached us a few days since to the effect that Red Republicanism had raised its head in Parma, had driven away the Piedmontese, seized the helm of government, and inaugurated a Reign of Terror. Up to the present hour, no confirmation of this bad news has been received. "The wish," we take it, "was father to the thought." But although the lying report does not make a fact, it reveals one hardly less discouraging. It shows that inflammable materials are known to be scattered throughout the Peninsula, and that it would suit the game of the despots to fire them, if it can be covertly done. The crooked policy is not altogether unfamiliar to the Court at Vienna. Paris knows how to reach the same ends by astuter means. Napoleon the Third, working by the priesthood, would prefer to swamp the intelligent aspirations of Italy in bogs of popular ignorance and superstition. He puts his faith in the reactionary power of universal suffrage. Whether it will really answer his purpose remains to be seen—although it is pretty certain that votes are of small avail where priests dictate how they shall be given, and garrisons, well planted, are close at hand to suppress popular indignation. Tuscany, happily, has been before-hand with the Emperors, and will, no doubt, raise her voice before she can be gagged. Will the Duchies and the Legations, whilst her determination is still ringing in their ears, suffer themselves to be outmanoeuvred? We must wait and see. It is not altogether so certain as it is assumed to be in Paris. Garibaldi's acceptance of the supreme command of the army of Central Italy indicates that the determination is strong in that region to uphold national rights at all hazards. If Napoleon is resolved to smother them, he must make up his mind to earn the mistrust and execration of the civilised world.

THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.

We are not about to enter upon a philosophical disquisition on strikes—nor sit in judgment on the comparative merits or demerits of the Central Association of Master Builders, on the one hand, or the United Building Trades' Conference, on the other. We entertained a strong hope, last week, that a reconciliation would be shortly effected, and we therefore refrained from commenting upon an unhappy difference which would be adjusted all the more easily the less it was meddled with by external parties. That hope, we are sorry to say, has proved delusive. The breach has widened. The quarrel becomes every day more bitter. The public have been called in to listen to the case on both sides; both parties have become more vehement, and less disposed to concession. Admirable as has been the conduct of the workmen as it regards the public peace, and temperate as has been the disposition of the masters, sore places are being rapidly multiplied—and, we suppose, this strike, like all others, will inflict incalculable harm upon all who come within its range without accomplishing the special object for which it was commenced.

If we gather correctly the purpose of the workpeople, it is to secure by combination with each other the diffusion of employment over as wide a surface as possible—to prevent it from distributing itself in unequal quantities, by means of piece-work and overtime—and to extend it to a larger number of hands by shortening the hours of labour for everyone engaged in the trade. These are perfectly legitimate objects of desire, and if they could be secured by voluntary combination, no one, perhaps, would be entitled to censure the proceeding. But in all attempts of this kind, how laudable soever may have been the motives in the outset, the element of compulsion grows side by side with that of strength. Indeed, the very existence of a large and powerful confederacy, overshadows individual independence. Few workmen would be courageous enough to take piece-work, or to work overtime, profitable as it might be to them and suitable to their circumstances, in the face of a condemnation passed upon it by the concurrence of the great body of their fellow-workmen. The moral force brought to bear upon them, and that, too, without resort being had to active means, is all but irresistible. All such organisations, therefore, however useful and even necessary, are dangerous—and it requires special care and wisdom to restrict their operation to ends capable of being thus attained without trenching upon individual rights.

It seems to us that the United Building Trades Conference have aimed at what they cannot possibly accomplish by means of combination, without trampling individual claims under foot. They may not mean this—they may be wholly unconscious of it—but such strikes us as the necessary result of their proceedings. They may, to some extent, regulate or modify the scale of wages, and they have a perfect right to do so—but they can neither artificially extend the area of employment, nor distribute it equally over the whole service, without abridging the personal rights of a considerable number. Every fresh hand they thus bring into the labour market is a permanent tax upon those who could and would do the work without this forced addition. Besides, no majority, however large, have a right to hedge round the capabilities of all, but the more able—perhaps, also, the more needy—should do the work which the Union would force upon unemployed hands. No one can force labour into channels arbitrarily marked out for it, without disturbing its natural equilibrium somewhere, and so inflicting injustice upon some one or other. If the labour market is overstocked with hands, it is as suicidal as unjust to step in and prevent the natural remedy—the gradual diversion of the surplus to other employments, and the gradual diminution of the supply. We attach no blame to the United Building Trades Conference—we do not impeach their motives—but that they are chargeable with a grave error of judgment in seeking to effect by combination what they never can so effect without doing wrong to a large number of their own constituents we are thoroughly convinced.

On the other hand, however, the masters have not met this strike with the wisdom that might have been expected from them. On this head we prefer to quote from the columns of the *Economist*:

Now, entirely and utterly as we disapprove of the policy of the journeymen builders and of the unions in this matter, we must frankly avow that we are so far from approving the counter-move of the masters and from appreciating their defence of it, that we should deem that workman in the right who should decline alike to endure the dictation of the trades unions as to the rate of wages he should accept, and the dictation of the masters as to the nature and constitution of the societies he might choose to join. The master builders can never hope to conquer in this strife, if they put themselves in the wrong by a renunciation of that right to combine among the men which, under different circumstances from the present, might be one which it would be perfectly legitimate and wise for the workmen to exercise. But, say the masters, "We never objected to combination in itself, but only to its perversion to dishonest purposes;" and, again, "Our agreement is not directed against trades unions, but only against their forcing their members, and those who do not belong to them, to part with their liberty to toil and contract, and to submit their personal rights to the disposal of irresponsible cabals;" which means, seemingly, that the master builders do not object to purely voluntary combinations, even for united action in raising the rate of wages; but object only to the tyrannical imposition of any authority over those who would not otherwise be disposed to condition for a higher rate of wages. Well and good. But what does the agreement say? It says, "I declare that I am not now, nor will I become during the continuance of my engagement with you, a member of, or support, any society which directly or indirectly, interferes with the hours or terms of labour." In other words, it entirely renounces the right of belonging to any society which is ever made the instrument even of "voluntary" combination for a higher rate of wages, though it should not attempt by any method, moral or physical, to overrule the wishes of dissentients who are not members of that society, or who withdraw from it in consequence of their dissent. Now, we cannot in the least understand how such a rul-

can be interpreted as bearing simply against "the perversion of combinations to dishonest purposes"—interpreting, as it clearly does, all combinations used for the purpose of changing the rate of wages whatever; unless, indeed, the word "dishonest," according to the lax customs of partisan logic, is to apply to all purposes of such combinations which are unwelcome to the employers of labour themselves.

Is there no method of adjusting these differences between masters and their workpeople, without entailing such waste, anxiety, and suffering on both sides as those' strikes involve. The French have an institution for the purpose which is said to work well. Cannot we adapt it to our habits? Many of the employers of labour, we know, think we cannot, and that no good can come of any legal interposition between masters and men. It may be so. We are ourselves inclined to think so. And yet the present method is so rude, so barbarous, so ruinous in its effects upon all concerned, that we cannot but believe that some easier because more normal means of striking the balance between them might be discovered. Something like a voluntary Court of Arbitration in which both parties are fairly represented might, at any rate, prevent differences from accumulating, as now, until they burst forth in a flame destructive to everyone within its range. We commend the subject to the earnest consideration of the Society for promoting Social Science. They will earn unfading laurels if they can find a substitute for strikes, and help master and men to adjust without these periodical disturbances their respective rights.

THE COOLIE TRADE.

ALTHOUGH the prorogation has postponed for at least six months any parliamentary discussion on the subject of Coolie Immigration to the British West-Indies, it is to be hoped that the Duke of Newcastle will, without delay, follow the advice of Lord Brougham and the Anti-Slavery Society, in making full inquiry of competent persons as to its present and probable operation. If the Colonial Secretary be satisfied with the formal reply of a few West-India governors to a list of formal queries, we are persuaded that he will obtain only *ex parte* information. Meanwhile, the subject, now that recent events have given to it an international importance, deserves to be thoroughly canvassed by the Fourth Estate of the realm, which, fortunately for the interest of freedom and humanity, is always in session.

One of the best, timeliest, and most searching investigations of the whole matter has appeared in the form of a pamphlet from the vigorous pen of the Rev. W. G. Barrett, many years a resident in Jamaica and British Guiana, whose striking papers, that appeared some years ago in our columns, on the condition of our West-India colonies, are a proof of his intimate personal acquaintance with the whole subject.* A great part of this brochure is taken up with an exposure of the enormities of the Coolie carrying trade, founded upon the official documents to which we have lately called attention. Mr. Barrett proves that the Coolies, both from Hong Kong and Calcutta, are either kidnapped or entrapped on board the emigrant ships; and that in their long passage to the West Indies they endure sufferings and mortality "scarcely surpassed in those days of traffic in human flesh which Clarkson and Wilberforce and Brougham and Granville Sharp exposed, and compelled a reluctant Parliament to suppress." We trust it may be true, as the Colonial Secretary alleges, that the horrors of the middle passage have of late been greatly mitigated, and that a very small percentage of the Coolies now conveyed from the East to the West Indies die on the way or suffer the dreadful hardships described in official papers. It requires, however, much stronger evidence than has yet been adduced to show that evils and abuses, so long incident to this traffic, can have been wholly removed.

Another point requiring further and rigid investigation is the condition of the Coolies when they are located in our colonies. Great parade is made by the partisans of the Immigration scheme, that many of the Coolies returned at the expiration of their five years of servitude with a large amount of savings; that some of them come back to the West Indies; and that those who remain in India after their return strenuously recommend their countrymen to follow their example by emigrating. Mr. Barrett examines some of these cases, and proves the fallacy of the deductions drawn from them; but as fuller information is shortly expected on this point in another blue book, we refrain at present from entering on the subject. But what becomes of the thousands of Coolies who are not fortunate enough to be carried back to their native land?

* "Immigration to the British West Indies: is it the Slave Trade Revived or not?" By the Rev. W. Garland Barrett Croydon, many years a resident in Jamaica and in British Guiana. London: A. W. Bennett, 5, Bishopsgate-street Without. Croydon: Gray and Warren.

Mr. Barrett gives us a glimpse of their melancholy lot:—

The hospital returns of British Guiana, of Jamaica, and of Trinidad, but especially of the first-named colony, will supply sickening statistics of a mortality that has hitherto been smothered in official silence. And then, besides those who have "died in hospital," there are those who have died, as we have witnessed, by the roadside, in the trenches, and elsewhere; dying mothers hugging dying babes to milkless breasts, and dying children beside dead parents with vultures hovering close by; dying absolutely of starvation and want in the El Dorado of the West Indies. Many a time have we been called on to furnish food and shelter for these unhappy creatures deluded to the West Indies in the hope of thereby making their fortunes. Sir E. B. Lytton only last year wrote to the Governor of Jamaica, requesting information "as to 1,500 Coolies stated not to be accounted for." The Colonial Land and Emigration Commissioners say, respecting these "missing Coolies," that there are "died, disappeared, or otherwise unaccounted for, 1,503;" so it leaks out in evidence that, between 1853 and 1858, in one island 1,500 human beings had disappeared. But as soon as the Immigration Agent at Jamaica investigates the matter according to his instructions, he is compelled to report that not 1,500, but 1,600 (minus 3 only) had "disappeared." What had become of them? Messrs. Murdoch and Rogers, of the Emigration Office, under date October 25th, 1858, say, "*It is impossible to tell what has become of these people.*" They have "disappeared;" that is all; they were only Coolies. But in British Guiana how many more have disappeared? Ask the residents on the West Coast and up Canal No. 1 of Demerara; ask the planters of Leguan and Wakeman Islands in the Essequibo; ask the missionaries of Berbice; and we shall only have another revelation of similar mortality.

If a large immigration of foreign labour be indeed necessary to the cultivation of West India estates, it is only equitable that the cost should be borne by those who need it. A proposition to pay out of the Consolidated Fund the expense of importing into London thousands of operative builders from the continent, to supply the place of those now on strike would be scouted with derision and indignation. Yet this is precisely the means by which the cost of Coolie immigration is defrayed in Jamaica and Guiana. "How many taxes does a negro pay altogether? Does he pay any at all?" triumphantly asks the *Times*. The reply is only too conclusive. Mr. Barrett clearly shows that the interest on the Immigration funds of Jamaica, 30,000*l.* per annum, is paid out of the taxation of the Island, the greater part of which is indirect. Twelve and a-half per cent. is now levied on all imports; and as the negroes are twenty-four to one of the population, according to the last census, it follows that the bulk of taxation must be paid by the bulk of consumers. The duties on beef and pork, bread-stuffs, flour and rice—articles used largely by the working population—have been doubled or quadrupled. The "independent Blacks," whose lot the *Times* pictures as so easy, have to pay four shillings a-head capitation tax, eighteen shillings on their carts, eleven shillings on their horses, and one-and-six-pence on every donkey, while the mules and steers of the planter are untouched. That necessary article, salt, which formerly paid one penny per cwt. is now charged two shillings per cwt. The negro who desires to vote is mulcted in a fee of ten shillings, and the privilege of addressing the House of Assembly entails a tax of ten shillings on every petition. These facts conclusively show that it is the labouring population of Jamaica who mainly bear the cost of introducing rivals to beat down their wages for the advantage of the planters.

One indirect effect of this scheme of Coolie Immigration deserves serious consideration. It has stimulated the cupidity and rivalry of French and American planters, parties who are quite free from even the restrictions that check the British colonist. France consents to abandon her revived slave-trade on the African coast on condition that she is allowed to procure for her West India Colonies Coolie labourers from India, who, as Mr. Cave showed in the House of Commons on Friday, will become, to all intents and purposes, slaves in Martinique and Guadaloupe. In the United States the Immigration movement has taken a more iniquitous shape. In spite of British cruisers the slave-trade is openly pursued by the Southern States. Cargoes of African negroes are from time to time landed along her extensive sea-board, with the connivance of local authorities, and in defiance of a weak executive. When the illegal and heinous traffic is discovered no Southern jury can be found bold enough to convict. In spite of national and international law the slave-trade, in all its enormity, is being revived, and the last accounts show that slave-ships, under the disguise of whalers, are being fitted out in the ports of New York and Albany in spite of the vigilance of the local Government.

CURIOUS COMPROMISE BY A RAILWAY COMPANY.—Some of the payments of the Greenock Railway Company to parties injured by the late accident are curious, among which we may mention that of a man who got a black eye through the collision, and who received by way of *solatium* a season ticket for a year and a half.—*Ayr Observer.*

Parliamentary Proceedings.

HOUSE OF LORDS.

On Wednesday several bills of a public and private nature were forwarded a stage.

The Bishop of OXFORD presented petitions against any measure similar to the Endowed Schools Bill, from Shaftesbury and other places, and also a number of petitions against legalising marriage with a deceased wife's sister, from Marlborough and other places. In reference to the last petition the LORD CHANCELLOR stated that his opinion on the subject remained unaltered, and that he should continue to oppose any proposition for legalising the particular marriage in question. The Bishop of OXFORD expressed his satisfaction at hearing that declaration from the noble and learned lord on the woolsack.

Their lordships, after waiting some time for bills from the Commons, adjourned at twenty-five minutes to six o'clock.

INDIAN FINANCE.

On Thursday, on the motion for passing the East India Loan Bill through committee,

The Duke of ARGYLL made a statement on the present state of the Indian finances, similar to that made by Sir C. Wood in the House of Commons. One cause of pleasure, he observed, amid surrounding difficulties, was that the revenue of India had been increasing annually, and had not even decreased during the year of the mutiny. He could not agree with those who, eager to reduce expenditure, advocated the dismemberment of India or the emancipation of the smaller Presidencies from the central control of Calcutta, nor did he think we should sufficiently meet the difficulty by reducing the salaries of the civil servants. The only source of reduction was in military expenditure, which could be the more readily effected, as we had no longer any foes to contend with in India. By judicious reductions in the army, by disarming the people, and by forbidding them to cast artillery, he considered that the expenditure of India might be reduced to the point at which it stood before the mutiny.

Lord ELLENBOROUGH supported the bill as being identical with one he had formerly himself proposed, and because he did not think the estimated revenue for the coming year would be realised. Deprecating strongly the system of guarantees as being to a great extent the cause of the financial embarrassments in India, he congratulated the Government on their manifest desire to apply a cure to the present evil by the appointment of Mr. Wilson as a kind of Chancellor of the Exchequer. The remedy for these evils did not consist in increasing taxation, but in diminishing expenses. He did not think that any reduction ought to be made in the salaries of the civil servants, as such a measure, by delaying retirements of the elder servants, would tend to throw the government of India into the hands of old instead of young men. In the native establishments and in the military expenditure the greatest reductions could be made, but at the present moment no steps, as far as he could judge, had been taken to produce this result. It was imperatively necessary for the maintenance of our position in India that an almost equal balance should exist between the European and native troops, but so far from this principle being observed, there were 270,000 native troops, including police, to only 120,000 Europeans. Here was the point where great reductions might be made, conducive to the safety of India and the benefit of the finances. He did not look gloomily on India, as he considered it the noblest empire ever acquired by man, and it was the duty of every Government to do all in its power consistent with the public interests to preserve it.

Lord LYVEDEN thought that the only means for bringing about a better state of things was by reducing the civil as well as the military expenditure, by reducing the numbers of Indian Councillors to six, and by imposing fresh taxes upon the natives of India.

The bill was then passed through committee.

The Volunteer Naval Reserve Force Bill was also passed through committee, after some explanation by the Duke of Somerset, and comments from Lord Ellenborough.

Many other bills having been forwarded through the pending stages of progress, their lordships adjourned at ten minutes to eight.

On Friday the Bankruptcy and Insolvency Act Amendment Bill was read a second time. The Appropriation Bill, the India Loan Bill, the Reserve Volunteer Force of Seamen Bill, and other last measures of the session were read a third time and passed. The Commons' amendments in the Divorce Court Bill were considered and agreed to.

Lord DENMAN gave notice that if the Government delayed in a future session the Reform Bill, in the manner in which they had hitherto delayed it, he would move the bill so prematurely put an end to in the last Parliament.

THE PROLOGATION.

On Saturday, the House met at two o'clock. There were but three other peers, besides the Commissioners, in attendance, and about a dozen ladies, who, as usual, occupied the Opposition benches; but there was a goodly number of the fair sex in the strangers' gallery, attracted to the spot by the desire to witness the ceremony of prorogation. The Lords Commissioners consisted of the Lord Chancellor, the Earl Granville, Viscount Sydney, the Duke of Somerset, and Earl St. Germans. When the Commissioners were seated, the Lord-Chancellor directed

the Usher of the Black Rod to summon the Commons to the House. The Usher of the Black Rod departed on his mission, and shortly after returned accompanied by the Speaker, Lord Palmerston, and forty or fifty members of the House of Commons.

The Commission for giving the Royal Assent to a number of public and private bills was read, and the clerks proceeded to pass them with the usual formalities. The bills were upwards of ninety in number, and included the Consolidated Fund (Appropriation) Bill, Stamp Duties Bill, Customs (No. 2) Bill, East India Loan Bill, Militia Pay Bill, Corrupt Practices Continuance Bill, Reserve Volunteer Forces of Seamen Bill, Inclosure Acts Amendment Bill, Stock in Trade Exemption Bill, Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction Bill, Episcopal and Capitular Estates Continuance Bill, Inclosure Bill, Poor-law Board (Payment of Debts) Bill, Medical Acts Amendment Bill, Weights and Measures Acts Amendment Bill, Militia Laws Amendment Bill, Coinage Bill, Probate and Letters of Administration (Ireland) Bill, Police (Counties and Boroughs) Bill, Charitable Trusts Act Continuance Bill, Charitable Provident Societies Bill, European Troops (India) Bill, Divorce Court Bill, Imprisonment for Small Debts Bill, Bankruptcy and Insolvency (Ireland) Act Amendment Bill, and a large number of railway and other private bills.

The LORD-CHANCELLOR then read the Royal Speech, of which the following is a copy:—

My Lords and Gentlemen,

We are commanded by her Majesty to release you from further attendance in Parliament, and at the same time to convey to you her Majesty's acknowledgments for the zeal and assiduity with which you have applied yourselves to the performance of your duties during the session of Parliament now about to close.

Various circumstances which occasioned interruptions in the usual course of business prevented the completion of important matters which her Majesty pointed out to the attention of her Parliament in the beginning of the present year; but her Majesty trusts that those matters will be taken into your earnest consideration at an early period of the next session.

The war which has broken out in Northern Italy having been brought to a close by the peace of Villafranca, various overtures have been made to her Majesty with a view to ascertain whether, if conferences should be held by the Great Powers of Europe for the purpose of settling arrangements connected with the present state and future condition of Italy, a Plenipotentiary would be sent by her Majesty to assist at such conferences, but her Majesty has not yet received the information necessary to enable her Majesty to decide whether she may think fit to take part in any such negotiations.

Her Majesty would rejoice to find herself able to contribute to the establishment of arrangements calculated to place the general peace on a satisfactory and lasting foundation.

Her Majesty, in accordance with the stipulations of the treaty of Tien-sing, has instructed her Plenipotentiary in China to repair to the Imperial Court at Pekin, and her Majesty trusts that such direct communication with the Imperial Government will have a beneficial effect upon the relations between the two countries.

Her Majesty commands us to inform you that she looks forward with confidence to the continued maintenance of those friendly relations which so happily subsist between her Majesty and all foreign Powers and States.

Her Majesty is glad to be able to congratulate you on the complete restoration of tranquillity in her Indian dominions. It will be her earnest endeavour to promote their internal improvement, and to obliterate the traces of those conflicts which her Majesty witnessed with such deep concern.

The financial arrangements of that portion of her Majesty's empire will continue to engage her Majesty's serious attention.

Her Majesty has had much satisfaction in giving her assent to the bills which you presented to her for the formation of a naval and military reserve force. A complete and permanent system of national defence must at all times be an object of paramount importance.

Gentlemen of the House of Commons,

Her Majesty commands us to convey to you her cordial thanks for the readiness and zeal with which you have provided the necessary supplies for the service of the year.

My Lords and Gentlemen,

Her Majesty commands us to express to you her heartfelt gratification at witnessing the general well-being and contentment which prevail throughout her dominions. The happiness of her Majesty's people is the object dearest to her heart. In returning to your respective counties you will have duties to perform intimately connected with the attainment of this great end, and her Majesty fervently prays that the blessing of Almighty God may attend your exertions in the performance of those duties for the common good of all classes of her Majesty's subjects.

The Commission of Prorogation was then read by the clerk at the table, and the Lord-Chancellor, in her Majesty's name, declared Parliament to stand prorogued accordingly.

The Speaker and the members of the House of Commons thereupon retired to their own chamber, and their lordships broke up.

HOUSE OF COMMONS.

THE PONTEFRACT ELECTION.

On Wednesday Mr. BRIGHT moved the appointment of a select committee to inquire into the allegations contained in the petition of Mr. Hugh C. E. Childers, which he had presented, and stated that if the House agreed to that motion he would propose that the committee consist of the following gentlemen:—Mr. Walpole, Mr. Craufurd, Captain Jervis, Lord Robert Clinton, Mr. Selwyn, Mr. Phillips, and Mr. G. C. Glyn.

Mr. OVEREND entered into a detailed explanation of the negotiations which had taken place respecting the affair. He said he was glad to have a Committee of Inquiry, but it would have been fairer to him had

Mr. Bright abstained from using certain strong expressions which did not apply to the case. According to Mr. Overend's explanation, his agents, Mr. Carriss and Mr. Rose, received an offer to refer all questions. Mr. Overend authorised them to accept the offer on the understanding that it was intended by Mr. Childers as a "dignified withdrawal." Subsequently, serious discussions arose between the parties, and it appeared that while Mr. Leeman, the agent for Mr. Childers, considered the referee had power to say to whom the seat belonged, Mr. Rose, the agent of Mr. Overend, regarded the reference as "an illusory arrangement." Mr. Overend declared that he never in the slightest degree would allow his right to the seat to be questioned, and that he, in an interview with Mr. Leeman, said, that if the question of the seat is to be gone into "I still protest." Ultimately, to put an end to controversy, and that he might not be accused of breaking an agreement, he remarked to Mr. Leeman, "I will throw myself entirely upon you." Thereupon Mr. Leeman withdrew from the reference, so says Mr. Overend, observing, "there is an end of it." Such is Mr. Overend's explanation.

Mr. BRIGHT, after somewhat qualifying the strong language he had used, said, that perhaps Mr. Overend would admit that Mr. Rose had been a little too sharp in his practice. Mr. Overend said, he all along assumed that the seat was not involved. Mr. Bright did not dispute that, but all know what is involved in an election petition and an election committee; and to a non-legal mind like his own, the only question that could arise was, whether the seat rightfully belonged to him or to Mr. Childers?

Sir WILLIAM JOLLIFFE thought that Mr. Bright had prejudged the case.

Mr. DISRAELI said Mr. Overend had set himself right with the House. The question is one of honour, and ought not to be brought under the cognisance of the House; and it would lay an inconvenient precedent. Mr. Disraeli thought that Mr. Bright had been too severe in his attacks on Mr. Rose—an acquaintance and neighbour of Mr. Disraeli's. He would not ask whether it had arisen from the exertions of Mr. Rose in another borough. Nevertheless he thought the inquiry should be made, since to withdraw from it might lead to a misunderstanding.

Sir GEORGE GREY agreed that they should abstain from discussion on the merits of the question. Giving Mr. Overend credit for his frankness, he said that he had omitted altogether to state what the question was that was to be submitted to a referee. It is due to the House that an inquiry should be made into the conduct of the agents.

The motion was then agreed to, and the Committee was nominated.

EUROPEAN TROOPS IN INDIA.

On the order for considering the European Troops (India) Bill, as amended.

Sir C. Wood explained the particular reasons for introducing this bill. He stated the limitations which had been imposed upon the East India Company as to the number of their European troops, which had been increased by Act of Parliament in 1853 to 24,000, but that number had been at one time exceeded under a doubt which this bill would remove, legalising what had been done, and giving a margin for an increased force to the extent of 30,000. The opinions of the members of the Royal Commission differed as to the expediency of a local army in India; but he thought the weight of authority was in favour of a local force, of which he pointed out some of the advantages. The late Government had come to a decision that a local army should be maintained, and the present Government had arrived at the same conclusion. Referring to the discontent of the European troops in India, he observed that he did not think they had any substantial grievance; but there were palliatives of their conduct, and he did not think it fair to treat them as wrongheaded or mutinous. The matter had been left to the decision of the Governor-General and Commander-in-Chief in India, and the men who wished it were to have their discharge and be sent home. He remarked that most of the malcontents were men who had recently arrived in India, and he considered it was a mistake to send out raw recruits there.

General PEEL said that this bill was in direct opposition to the report of the Royal Commission, that no local army should be maintained in India. He regarded the conduct of the European troops in a more serious light than Sir C. Wood, and he asked whether the Government had received any communication from Lord Clyde and General Mansfield respecting the mutiny. He was of opinion that the enlisting men in this country for India would weaken the resources of the recruiting market for the regular army and militia, and saw no reason, he said, why the foreign market might not be resorted to for India. He, however, objected to any increase of the local force, and believed that Sir C. Wood had adopted a purely Indian view of the case, which was nothing more or less than a question of patronage.

After some remarks from Sir De Lacy Evans, Mr. S. Herbert, Colonel North, Colonel Dunne, Mr. Ayrton, and Sir F. Smith,

Colonel SYKES said he entirely concurred in the necessity of the bill. India could not be governed without a local army acquainted with Indian habits and associations, and accustomed to regard India as its home. Without such an army the Indian Government would be placed in the utmost possible danger. The opinion of the commission that had been alluded to was only the opinion of the majority

of officers upon it who had no Indian experience, against the minority who had had great experience in India. As to the mutiny of the European troops, he believed the men were technically wrong, but morally in the right. (Hear, hear.) The men attested for the service of the East India Company could not be transferred to the service of the Crown without a renewal of their engagement.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

THE WAKEFIELD ELECTION.

Mr. HOPSON moved an address to her Majesty to cause inquiry to be made into the existence of corrupt practices in the borough of Wakefield by the appointment of a commission. The motion was opposed by Colonel SMYTH and Mr. BRADY. The latter said he never knew an instance in which a commission such as had been moved for was appointed that some lawyers were not enabled to make a grand job of it. (Laughter.)

Mr. E. JAMES and Mr. CAIRD supported the motion, which was agreed to without a division.

THE BUILDERS' STRIKE.

On Thursday, in reply to Mr. E. James, Sir G. LEWIS said a deputation of the master builders had waited upon him on the subject of the "strike," and stated the grounds of the difference between themselves and the men, and the reasons which had determined their conduct, expressing an opinion, in which he did not concur, that it was desirable that the House of Commons or the Government should arbitrate with the view of bringing about an accommodation. He had said that, in his opinion, neither one nor the other could undertake the office of arbitration.

THE CHILTERN HUNDREDS.

In answer to a question put by Mr. Griffith, the CHANCELLOR OF THE EXCHEQUER said he did not think he should be justified in refusing the grant of the Chiltern Hundreds to a member against whose return a petition was merely pending; that the Chancellor of the Exchequer must have some formal act of the House, or some patent facts, that would afford him some reasons for refusing the grant.

PURIFYING THE SERPENTINE.

Sir J. PAXTON asked the First Commissioner of Works whether it was his intention to proceed with the works, as proposed by Mr. Hawley, for partially cleansing the water in the Serpentine. Mr. FITZROY said it was his intention to proceed with the works for totally and effectually purifying, not "partially cleansing" the water, and he entered into an explanation of the plan in order to correct what he said were misapprehensions in this matter. The purifying process would, he believed, be not merely partial, but total and complete in its effects. In the course of a brief discussion which followed, Mr. STEPHENSON expressed his belief that the plan adopted by the Government was the best and cheapest for accomplishing the object in view. Sir J. PAXTON was quite sure the plan proposed would not answer; he understood at first that it was intended to pump the water out at one end, and then, after filtering it, throw it in at the other. That would make a stream; but to pour it back again when it was taken out would not alter the lever one-eighth of an inch. Sir M. PETO felt no hesitation whatever in pronouncing in favour of the perfect practicability of the plan which had been adopted by the First Commissioner of Works.

CHARITABLE TRUSTS.

On the motion for going into committee on the Charitable Trusts Acts Continuance Bill,

Mr. NEWDEGATE opposed the measure in the interest, as he stated, of the Roman Catholics, who were injured in various ways by the character of the law, which excluded their charitable endowments from the control and supervision of the Charity Commissioners and the Court of Chancery.

Look at the position of Cardinal Wiseman now. He came to this country as an archbishop, he came as a cardinal and privy councillor of the Papal Court. He was here as the legate of the Pope to a foreign Court, although it was contrary to international law, contrary to the law of this country, and contrary to all usage, that a legate, who was ambassador to a foreign court, should be resident in another country. How could such a state of things be permitted to continue? Not only was it contrary to law, but to permit this was contrary to the oath which every member of the House had taken, and he earnestly called upon the House not to pass a bill that upheld a state of things that was derogatory to the throne and subversive of the rights of the subject. Trusts were misappropriated under the authority of this ambitious Cardinal, who claimed the right of dealing with them, free of all check and control. The Cardinal boasted of the increase of Catholicism under his English rule; of the increase in the number of the priesthood, and of the prospect of being able to enforce the canon law of Rome within these realms. He exercised the authority of depriving priests of their endowments, and although such deprivations were wrongful and unjust, the only remedy open to the poor priest was an appeal to Rome.

He moved, as an amendment, that the bill should be committed that day three months.

The amendment was seconded by Mr. SPOONER and opposed by Mr. HENNESSY.

Mr. BOWYER contended that if the continuance bills were not passed, all Roman Catholic charitable endowments would fall within the province of the Superstitions Uses Act, and be thereby practically confiscated.

Mr. A. KINNAIRD said that a large number of Roman Catholics in the north of England were as much opposed to this bill as the hon. member for North Warwickshire. The distinct understanding when this bill was first passed was that a permanent measure would at once be brought forward. He should support the motion because he had received from four successive Governments distinct pledges

that the continuance bill of that session should be the last.

Sir G. LEWIS, abstaining from the controversial topics which had mingled with the discussion of the bill, explained and vindicated the course taken by the Government; and as to the prospects of future legislation, he thought the House would be in a condition next session to approach the whole question with a better chance than hitherto of a settlement.

Mr. SPOONER had no wish to take from the Roman Catholics one farthing's worth of their property, but he for one would consent to no more continuance bills; he believed that he should benefit the Roman Catholics themselves by putting their property under the beneficial operation of the Charitable Trusts Act, and withdrawing it from the foreign influence which was now openly admitted.

Mr. O'BRIEN made a few remarks, and, upon a division, the amendment was negatived by 70 to 47, and the House then went into a committee on the bill. Upon the report, the bill was read a third time, and passed.

THE DIVORCE COURT.

The House then, in committee, discussed the clauses of the Divorce Court Bill (likewise from the Lords), which underwent material amendments by the omission of the 4th clause, which extended the jurisdiction of the Court to Ireland; the 5th clause, which authorised the Court to hold its sittings in cases involving considerations of public decency with closed doors; and the 7th clause, providing that petitions for the dissolution of marriage be referred to the Attorney-General, with a view to prevent collusion.

On the motion of the Attorney-General, a clause was added, providing that, on any petition presented by a wife, praying that her marriage may be dissolved by reason of her husband's adultery, coupled with cruelty or with desertion, the husband and wife shall be competent and compellable to give evidence relating to such cruelty or desertion.

A clause was likewise added empowering the Court to make orders with reference to the application of property under ante-nuptial or post-nuptial settlements.

The bill was read a third time and passed.

On the motion that the Attorneys and Solicitors Bill should be considered as amended in committee, Mr. KNIGHT was proceeding to state his objections to the measure, when the House was counted out at half-past seven o'clock.

THE HULL ELECTION.

On Friday Mr. MALINS moved for a new writ for Hull in the room of Mr. Joseph Hoare, whose election had been declared to be void, contending that, as the Election Committee had not reported that he had been guilty of bribery by himself or his agents, the sessional order, requiring two days' notice of such a motion in all cases where a seat had been declared void on the ground of bribery, was no obstacle to the issue of the writ.

Mr. FULLER, chairman of the Election Committee, said he had no authority from the Committee to express any opinion on their behalf whether the writ should or should not issue. For himself, he did not wish to interpose any obstacle to the issue of the writ.

Sir G. GREY thought the only inference that could be drawn from the report was that Mr. Hoare was unseated on the ground of bribery.

After further discussion, Mr. Malins withdrew his motion.

SUNDAY BANDS IN THE PARKS.

Mr. JAMES asked the First Commissioner of Works what reply, if any, he gave to a deputation of the Lord's Day Society, which attended him upon the subject of preventing the performance of bands in the parks on Sundays.

Mr. FITZROY said that the deputation went into the merits of the whole question, discussing it in a religious point of view. He replied that he fully agreed with them as to the right of every man to the enjoyment of one day of rest in the week, and that he would be most unwilling to be a party to anything that would affect that right; but he stated that the performers who composed the band were free agents, and undertook the duty voluntarily (hear, hear); that, according to the showing of the deputation, vast numbers of persons frequented the parks to enjoy the music; that the privilege had been continued for several years; that no complaints of riot or improper conduct had been made with respect to the parties frequenting the parks (hear, hear); and that he would not feel justified in abolishing the existing practice, which had been so long continued without leading to any inconvenience. (Hear, hear.)

THE GLOUCESTER ELECTION.

Mr. E. JAMES moved an address to her Majesty to cause inquiry to be made, by the appointment of a commission, into the existence of corrupt practices in the city of Gloucester. Mr. MELLOR thought it a mere farce and a sham to issue commissions unless the House meant to act upon their report. Mr. BRADY objected to the country being put to expense for the sake of giving employment to barristers in the long vacation. Mr. MALINS had also the strongest objections to these commissions. There had been fifteen such commissions. There were fifteen blue books in the library, and he ventured to say there were not fifteen men who had read them. Sir G. GREY observed that this was the course expressly provided by Parliament, and the House, having consented to the issue of a commission in the case of Wakefield, would be acting inconsistently if it rejected this motion. Upon a division, the motion was carried by fifty-nine to twenty-one.

THE SLAVE TRADE.

Mr. CAMPBELL moved two resolutions, to the effect that this House feels bound to express the deep respect it entertains for the firm and honourable manner in which the Government of Portugal has acted on its treaties with Great Britain in restraining negro exportation from the Eastern Coast of Africa in 1857 and 1858; and that it fully recognises the zeal with which the Emperor of the French has resolved to check the slave trade in all its forms through his dominions.

Mr. C. BUXTON, in seconding the motion, said, he knew that the Portuguese themselves were anxious that there should be some such expression of opinion on the part of the British Parliament as that now proposed, which would have the effect of placing them in a better position with respect to their efforts to suppress the slave trade than they were in at present.

Mr. CAVE quite agreed in the motion as far as Portugal was concerned. With regard, however, to France, he asked were they quite certain that the Emperor of the French had resolved to check the slave trade in all its forms throughout his dominions?

He had himself received information from Martinique that a vessel with several hundreds of negroes on board, and belonging to a firm at Marseilles, had lately landed at that island; thus showing that a traffic was going on which our Government had stigmatised as the slave trade, and in consequence of which they had addressed remonstrances to the Emperor. It was also stated that the vessel in question, after landing her cargo, was to return to the coast of Africa for a fresh one. It might be asserted that these negroes were free emigrants; but when it was known that they were sometimes placed in irons and put on board vessels which carried them to French possessions, it certainly did not seem as if they were allowed to exercise much free agency in the matter. Some of them had escaped from Martinique and Guadaloupe to British territory, while others had been drowned in their attempts at flight—circumstances which threw considerable doubt on their alleged freedom. Negotiations were said to have been set on foot by the Emperor of the French with our Government with a view to substitute Indian Coolies for these negroes. To the immigration of these Coolies to our own colonies there was no objection, because their embarkation and debarkation were both conducted under the strict surveillance of our Government agents. But if they were to be carried from the British possessions to Martinique, Guadaloupe, or Bourbon, immediately they had sailed they would be withdrawn from the control of our authorities, and when they had arrived at their destination there would be no security for their proper treatment.

Sir G. GREY regretted that such a motion should have been brought forward so late in the session in so thin a House. He hoped that the hon. gentleman who had introduced the subject would not think it necessary to press his resolutions. He believed the Portuguese Government had acted with great zeal in restraining the exportation of negroes from the coast of Africa, and that the Emperor of the French had also been earnest in his endeavours to check the slave trade. But a correspondence was still going on with respect to that subject between our Government and the Governments of both of the countries referred to in the motion; and if these resolutions were passed they might lead those two Governments to say that we were entirely satisfied that they had done all that was necessary.

The motion was withdrawn.

Mr. BRADY was calling attention to the circumstances under which Mr. S. H. S. Pullen, medical officer of the third district, Otterton and Briton, of St. Thomas's Union, Exeter, was dismissed by the board of guardians, when the House was counted out at a quarter to seven o'clock.

SATURDAY'S SITTING.

The House met at half-past twelve o'clock. New writs were ordered to be issued for the boroughs of Liskeard, Hertford, and Berwick-upon-Tweed, in the room respectively of Mr. Grey, who has become Commissioner of Customs, Mr. Cowper, who is appointed Vice-President of the Board of Trade, and Mr. Earle, who vacated the seat by accepting the Chiltern Hundreds.

Mr. WESTHAWD called attention to the report that day promulgated from the select committee appointed to investigate the circumstances attending the withdrawal of the petition against the election for Pontefract. He thought that Mr. Childs ought to be replaced in the position he had thus forfeited, but confessed that neither the select committee nor the House itself had the power to revive the abandoned petition. He moved that the report be read at the table. The motion was seconded by Mr. CRAUFURD. Mr. SHAW, as one of the members of the select committee, detailed the circumstances as proved by the evidence brought before them. He thought that, as the withdrawal of the petition had evidently taken place under a complete misunderstanding, it should be cancelled, and cited precedents for such a proceeding. He moved, accordingly, that the order discharging the Pontefract petition should be discharged. Sir G. GREY considered that everything must be left to Mr. Overend's sense of justice, but he (Sir G. Grey) suggested that the case might be referred to some competent arbitration. Mr. MALINS contended that it was unfair to expect Mr. Overend to resign his seat. He moved the adjournment of the debate. Sir J. PAKINGTON maintained that the House had competence to renew the petition, and wished to take a division on that question. Mr. OVEREND explained the transaction as far as he was personally concerned, a misunderstood agreement having been entirely arranged between the agents employed on either side. He assented to the proposal for referring the question, and suggested that Sir G. Grey and Sir J. Pakington should select an arbitrator. After some further discussion, all the

motions were successively withdrawn, it being understood that the case should be referred.

In reply to Mr. Gregson, Lord J. RUSSELL stated that Mr. Bruce, the British envoy in China, had been instructed to proceed to Pekin, and that the Emperor would be requested to carry out the treaty by accrediting a representative on his part to the Court of St. James's.

To a question from Mr. Griffith, Lord J. RUSSELL replied that the Government had received no information respecting the alleged insurrection in Parma.

On the motion of Mr. MALINS a new writ was ordered for Hull in the room of Mr. Hoare, whose return had been declared void.

Lord ELCHO, in moving for some returns relative to the volunteer rifle corps, alluded to an opinion which he said prevailed in some quarters that the Prime Minister had spoken disparagingly of that force. Mr. S. HERBERT expressed his high appreciation of the volunteer corps, many of whose members had been found, when tried as marksmen, to surpass the best trained officers of the regular army. He believed that the country would derive great benefit from the establishment of this force, which would become a valuable and permanent addition to our national defences. Lord PALMERSTON denied that he had ever spoken depreciatingly of the volunteer, for whom, on the contrary, he felt high admiration, and had sought by every means to encourage the movement for the formation of rifle corps.

Mr. TITE obtained leave to bring in a bill to amend the Metropolis Local Management Act, and Mr. HENNESSY for a bill to amend the law relating to Roman Catholic charities.

At three o'clock the House was summoned to the bar of the Peers to hear the Royal prorogation speech read by commission.

On returning the speech was again read by the Speaker at the table, and the House forthwith separated for the recess.

ELECTION PETITIONS.

The following is a list of the petitions to be tried in the next session:—

Weymouth and Melcombe Regis.—Joseph Slade and others, Robert James Roy Campbell, and Colonel William Lockyer Freestun.

Carlisle.—John Park Arthur and John Graham.

Barnstaple.—Sir William Augustus Fraser, Sir William Augustus Fraser.

Roscommon.—Denis O'Conor and Patrick Graham.

Great Yarmouth.—Joseph Bayley and Robert Pilgrim.

Newry.—R. Dempster and T. Cardwell.

King's County.—D. Hume and John F. Cassidy.

Chatham.—George Wilstead and George Pattison.

Dover.—Sir William Russell, Bart.

Carlow.—Henry Cary and Thomas H. Carroll and Henry Cary and Thomas H. Carroll.

Dundalk.—Patrick Dowdall and Matthew M. Graham.

Clare.—Nicholas Butler and John B. Macnamara.

Lyme Regis.—J. G. S. M. Moore and G. N. Shore.

Peterborough.—William Vergette and others, Thomas Scobey and Henry Freeman.

Athlone.—Robert Preston Bayley, James William Fair, Lawrence Kelly, and Thomas Gill.

Norwich.—Josiah Fletcher and others, J. Godwin Johnson, and Roger Garrison, and Philip Back and Gardiner C. Stevens.

Select Committees have reported on the following:—

Ashburton.—Mr. Astell seated.

Aylesbury.—Mr. T. T. Bernard and Mr. S. G. Smith seated; Mr. Wentworth unseated.

Beverley.—Major Edwards seated and Mr. Walters unseated.

Bury.—Mr. Peel seated.

Cheltenham.—Colonel Berkeley seated.

Dartmouth.—Mr. Schenley unseated; void election.

Gloucester.—Mr. Price and Mr. Monk unseated; void election.

Huddersfield.—Mr. E. A. Leatham seated.

Kingston-upon-Hull.—Mr. Hoare unseated; void election.

North Leicestershire.—Lord John Manners and Mr. Hartopp seated.

Limerick City.—Major Gavin seated.

Maidstone.—Mr. Buxton and Mr. Lee seated.

Norwich.—Lord Bury and Mr. Schneider unseated; void election.

Preston.—Mr. Grenfell seated.

Wakefield.—Mr. W. H. Leatham unseated; void election.

The election petitions withdrawn are as follows:—

Athlone.—William Wallace.

Berwick-upon-Tweed.—Thomas Bogue and others.

Bodmin.—William Button and John Barnest.

Bridgewater.—Henry Clement Heard and Reuben Bond.

Froome.—Donald Nicoll.

West Kent.—Charles Wykeham Martin and James Whatman.

Kidderminster.—John Ayres and others.

Kington-upon-Hull.—William Jones and Richard Mitchell.

Merionethshire.—Owen Richards and Hugh Richard Pugh.

Pontefract.—Hugh Culling Eardley Childers.

Sandwich.—John Ralph and Henry Langley.

New Windsor.—William Henry Banks and Henry Thompson.

Great Yarmouth.—John Clowes and Henry Danby Palmer.

The Hull Election Committee decided on Wednesday that Mr. Joseph Hoare was not duly elected. The election is voided by the employment of voters in the capacity of "runners." Four hundred and eighty-seven persons were so employed on the part of Mr. Hoare, and 493 for Messrs. Clay and

Lewis, the other candidates. Of the 487 persons employed on the part of Mr. Hoare, it has been proved that more than 300 were voters, who had received, through his agents, sums varying from 2s. 6d. to 3s. 5s. each. The Committee further report that such payments were made without the knowledge or sanction of the said Joseph Hoare, Esq.; on the contrary, it appeared that the said Joseph Hoare, Esq., had, before and throughout the election, exhibited the greatest anxiety to prevent any such proceeding by his agents, or those acting under them.

ELECTION INTELLIGENCE.

BERWICK.—Both Mr. Richard Hodgson, the Conservative candidate, and Mr. Majoribanks, the Whig, are pursuing an active canvass. The contest promises to be close, but a sort of "vigilance committee" has been formed among the non-electors to take note, should any corrupt practices prevail.

BODMIN.—The election took place on Saturday. Mr. Tremayne, the Conservative candidate, having withdrawn from the contest, Mr. Wyld was returned without opposition. In returning thanks he referred to the retirement of Dr. Michell from the representation of the borough. He said the act that became him most in his life was his dying one, for Mr. Michell's last speech in the House of Commons did him great honour. Mr. Wyld made profession of a Liberal creed. The extension of the suffrage would be of great benefit to the nation at large. He was opposed to the principles advocated by Mr. John Bright, that simply population should be represented, for he held that property and population should go together. Then, as to Church-rates, it would be his duty to support their thorough abolition; and if the ballot should be brought forward again, it would be his duty to vote for it, as in times past. (Cheers.)

DEVONPORT.—Yesterday (Tuesday) at the Town Hall, Devonport, Sir Arthur Buller was proposed by Mr. Watson, and seconded by Mr. Snell. Mr. Ferrand was proposed by Mr. Glencross, and seconded by Mr. Rowe. The Mayor (Mr. Laity), who presided, declared (after some hesitation) that the show of hands was in favour of Mr. Ferrand. A poll having been demanded by the friends of Sir Arthur, the election is appointed to take place today (Wednesday).

HERTFORD.—The Right Hon. William Cowper, who has been appointed Vice-President of the Board of Trade, has addressed a letter to his constituents, soliciting re-election. Mr. Cowper has represented the town ever since 1835, and has rarely been opposed, although frequently presenting himself to the electors on taking office, except on the occasion of a general election. He will, it is said, be opposed by Mr. R. Dimsdale, in the Conservative interest. It is said that the Hon. Baron Dimsdale, the head of the Dimsdale family, was opposed to the candidature of his nephew, and would, as one of the electors of the borough, canvass the town in behalf of Mr. Cowper. It is understood that Mr. Dimsdale, who has no property in the borough, comes forward under the auspices of the Marquis of Salisbury.

LISKEARD.—In consequence of Mr. R. W. Grey having vacated his seat by his acceptance of the commissionership of her Majesty's Customs, it has become necessary to fill his place. Mr. W. H. Pole Carew, a Conservative, has offered to contest the borough if the electors would invite him, but his offer was not taken. Another gentleman in the field was Mr. J. H. Murchison, of London, a Liberal Conservative, largely connected with mining; but he refrained from issuing his address until Mr. Bernal Osborne, who had been selected by the Liberal Committee, had addressed the constituency. Mr. Osborne arrived at Liskeard on Friday night, and addressed a crowded meeting of the electors. The proceedings closed with a vote of confidence in the hon. gentleman.

REPRESENTATION OF HULL.—It is said that Mr. Joseph Somes, the shipowner of Blackwall, is about to seek the suffrages of the electors of Hull. At present, however, the only candidate in the field is Mr. Harvey Lewis, who was defeated by Mr. Hoare at the general election by a slight majority.

TAUNTON.—This election took place on Tuesday. The Conservatives took the lead at the commencement of the polling, and retained it the entire day. At the close of the poll the numbers were—Bentinck (Conservative), 381; Barclay (Radical), 386; majority for Bentinck, 45.

M. MAZZINI ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS.

Signor Mazzini has published a long manifesto on the state and prospects of Europe. He lays it down that Imperialism is the most urgent danger of Europe, and that it is a danger which has grown out of the culpable indifference with which England especially regarded the expedition against Rome. He declares "from certain knowledge of the fact," that—

The peace of Villafranca is the inauguration of a new holy alliance between the three Powers which now represent despotism in Europe—Imperial France, Russia, and Austria. The aim of the alliance—they are phrases uttered at Plombières and at Stuttgart—is to imperialise Europe, making themselves master, in order to falsify it, of the national idea, and substituting the territorial question to the question of liberty. The means—and this will be the next step to the Lombard war—are the partition between the three members of the alliance of the Mohammedan possessions in Europe and Africa and war with England. If Austria did not accept the proposals of Villafranca the plan was to have been executed in a modified manner between the Czar and the Em-

peror. Hungary, emancipated from Austria, would fall to Constantine; the Mediterranean, converted into a French lake, to the Emperor. Russia was to be, directly or indirectly, mistress of the North and of the East of Europe, Imperial France of the West and of the South. At present the agreement of the three, changes the idea of partition, and limits, as I said, the next step to the dismemberment of Oriental Europe, and to the war against England and Prussia.

THE LATE MR. JOSEPH STURGE.

A congregation of free negroes in Jamaica has adopted the following address to the family of the late Mr. Sturge:-

At a meeting of the church and congregations in Spanish Town and Sligoville, in the parishes of St. Catherine's and St. Thomas in the Vale, Jamaica, under the pastoral care of the Rev. J. M. Phillipps, it was unanimously resolved:-

"That this meeting has heard with deep sorrow the death of their devoted friend and benefactor, Joseph Sturge, Esq., and hereby express their heartfelt sympathy with the friends of religion, of justice, and of humanity at large, in that affecting Providence by which they have been called to sustain the loss of so distinguished a Christian and philanthropist.

"They more especially express their condolence with Mrs. Sturge and family, who under such painful circumstances, in relation to the suddenness of the bereavement, mourn the loss of so affectionate and devoted a husband, father, and friend. But while they so deeply deplore his loss and record their testimony to the great and varied excellencies of Mr. Sturge's character in the relationships, both of public and private life, as connected more immediately with the interests of his native land, this meeting, consisting chiefly of emancipated peasantry, cannot but feel themselves laid under the deepest obligations on account of his long, arduous, and unwavering advocacy of their rights as men and as British subjects, particularly for his noble and generous conduct in personally visiting the West Indies in 1837 (well remembered by many of them), in order to acquaint himself with the odious system of apprenticeship to which they were then subject, and by which he was enabled to collect the facts that so effectually moved the people and Parliament of England to effect their complete emancipation.

"This boon, which it need scarcely be said they estimate beyond all price, and for which they trust they are increasingly thankful, they attribute chiefly, under God, to the efforts of their departed friend and his associate, Thomas Harvey, Esq.; and they are persuaded that in this testimony they speak the sentiments of the whole emancipated population, not only of Jamaica, but those of the enfranchised peoples of all the British Colonies.

"All feel that they are bereaved of a friend and benefactor whose anxiety and efforts for their welfare have never been surpassed, and will ever associate the name of Sturge in their recollection with Clarkson, Wilberforce, Buxton, and others, gone also to their reward—the noblest and best friends of the African race that history records.

"Mr. Sturge, however, not only occupied the highest ranks as an Abolitionist; while he endeavoured to free the body of the slave from degrading vassalage, he, to the last hour of his life, consecrated his influence and property towards raising him, by Christian education, to that rank in the scale of being of which, by his circumstances and condition, he had been so unjustly deprived. But for his unfaltering generosity in this department of benevolence also (by no means the least important), and that of others of the Society of Friends in particular, in aiding the various educational establishments in Jamaica, as many of this meeting can testify, few would have emerged from the abject mental condition in which the dark reign of slavery had left them.

"In recording their expressions of grief, in common with the whole of their brethren acquainted with Mr. Sturge's sympathies and efforts for the advancement of both their temporal and spiritual welfare, this meeting would not forget that the event was the result of his all-wise ordination, who doeth what pleaseth him in the armies of heaven and among the inhabitants of the earth.

"They would therefore humbly acquiesce in the dispensation, and adore the Divine goodness which supported their devoted friend through so long a period of usefulness, and enabled him to perform such a series of eminent services as distinguished his life; and earnestly pray that his children, and all who were privileged with his acquaintance, together with all who may hereafter know his worth, may imitate him in all that ennobles and distinguishes him as a philanthropist, and in everything that was amiable and attractive in his character as a Christian."

Court, Official, and Personal News.

The Queen held a Council at Osborne on Friday. Parliament was ordered to be prorogued to Thursday, the 27th October. The Royal Speech for closing the session of Parliament was submitted and approved. On the same evening, the Queen and Prince Consort, accompanied by Prince Alfred, Prince Arthur, Princess Alice, and Princess Helena, embarked in the Victoria and Albert, on a cruise. The Royal squadron brought up in Yarmouth Roads on Friday evening, and sailed early the following morning for the Channel Islands, arriving at St. Helier's, Jersey, about nine a.m. Her Majesty, with the Prince Consort, Royal family, and suite, landed at St. Helier's, and drove across to Goree, the Royal squadron steaming round to the latter port, where her Majesty re-embarked about seven p.m. The squadron remained at anchor all that night, getting under weigh the following morning, and arrived at Guernsey about noon, when her Majesty landed, and remained on shore about three hours. Her Majesty was received with the greatest enthusiasm on both the islands. The squadron weighed in the evening for Alderney, where they anchored for the night, leaving again early on Sunday morning. The

Queen and family returned to Osborne on Monday morning.

We understand that the Earl of Elgin will be appointed to succeed Lord Canning, who will shortly retire from the Governor-Generalship of India. His lordship's visit to Calcutta during the Sepoy revolt evidently fits him for this important post.—*China Telegraph*.

We hear that Mr. William Dougal Christie, who has been for some years Minister at the Argentine Confederation, is appointed to Brazil, on the resignation of the Hon. Francis Reginald Forbes, who, our readers may recollect, was transferred to that embassy from Dresden by the late Government. We understand that Mr. Forbes does not return to Dresden.—*Globe*.

Mr. Herbert Fisher, the eldest son of the Rev. Canon Fisher, the rector of the parish of Poulshot, Wilts, has been appointed private tutor to his Royal Highness the Prince of Wales during his sojourn at Oxford.—*Times*.

The Right Hon. William Cowper has been appointed Vice-President of the Board of Trade, in succession to Mr. James Wilson.

The case of Mr. Overend has been referred to Sir George Grey and Sir John Pakington. These right hon. gentlemen will ask the aid of Sir J. Coleridge as umpire.

Mr. Goulburn has been appointed deputy-chairman of the Board of Customs, in the room of Mr. Spring Rice, resigned in consequence of ill health. The seat at the board vacant by the promotion of Mr. Goulburn will be filled by Mr. Ralph William Grey, M.P.

On Wednesday morning the Prince of Wales and Prince Alfred, attended by their suites, visited Professor Lyon Playfair's laboratory at the Edinburgh University, where they heard explanations of the chemical phenomena connected with the processes of calico printing and dyeing. In the evening they visited the Queen's Theatre.

Lord Macaulay has arrived at Tarbet, with the intention of sojourning for a short time amid the beautiful scenery of Lochlomond.

The recorderships of Walsall, Newark, Lincoln, and Northampton having become vacant by the death of Mr. Serjeant Clarke, the following appointments have been made:—Mr. W. J. Neale to be recorder of Walsall; Mr. Fitzjames Stephen to be recorder of Newark; Hon. G. C. Vernon to be recorder of Lincoln; Mr. J. Hibbert Brewer to be recorder of Northampton.

The Grand Duke Constantine of Russia visited her Majesty on Wednesday afternoon. On leaving Ryde he will, it is said, pay a visit to the Emperor Napoleon at Biarritz.

Law and Assize.

TRIAL OF DR. SMETHURST.—**THE RICHMOND POISONING CASE.**—The trial of Dr. Thomas Smethurst for the murder of Isabella Bankes, at Richmond, which was abruptly terminated at the last session of the Central Criminal Court by the sudden illness of a juror, was resumed on Monday morning before the Lord Chief Baron Pollock, by whom the case was commenced on the former occasion. Sir John Lawrence and other persons of distinction had seats on the bench. It will be recollected that the prisoner is charged with the murder of a lady named Isabella Bankes, by administering to her constantly small doses of arsenic or antimony, or some other irritant poison. He was a married man, but he had gone through the ceremony of marriage with the deceased shortly before her death, and he had induced her to make a will in his favour, under which he would have come into possession of about 1,800L. The facts of the case for the prosecution having been detailed in the reports of the proceedings before the magistrates and the coroner, and at the last imperfect trial, must be fresh in remembrance. There is some evidence of a moral character, but the charge, if it be substantiated at all, must rest chiefly on the medical, or rather chemical evidence. On Monday the case for the prosecution was left incomplete. The proceedings will probably be spread over many days.

A BAPTIST MINISTER AND HIS CONGREGATION.—A painful libel case has just been tried at the Warwick Assizes. The plaintiff was the Rev. S. J. Chew, minister of the Baptist Chapel, Bond-street, Birmingham, and the defendant was a Mr. William Duke, who had been a member of the congregation for forty-five years, but (with two others) recently expelled. The evidence exhibited a sad state of disunion among the members of the congregation. Various charges, chiefly affecting questions of discipline, had been made against Mr. Chew by the defendant and others, in consequence of which charges he resigned. On this a general meeting of members of the congregation was held, and they passed a resolution requesting him to withdraw the resignation. He declined to do so unless the congregation separated itself from certain individuals who had taken part against him. Thereupon the meeting formally expelled the persons in question. A meeting of the dissentients, held subsequently, passed a series of resolutions condemnatory of Mr. Chew's proceedings. These formed part of the libel. Certain verbal statements to the detriment of the plaintiff also entered into the charge. Among other things, it was alleged that Mr. Chew had asserted baptism to be necessary to salvation, and denied the doctrine of original sin. He emphatically denied that there was any truth in these allegations. The case for the plaintiff was completed, and the Court was proceeding to re-

ceive evidence on behalf of the defendant, when it was announced that the respective counsel had come to an arrangement to withdraw a juror. It was admitted that the congregation had a right to canvass the acts and character of their minister, and the defendant now publicly stated that he never intended to carry the assertions he had made out of the congregation, and also that the personal moral character of Mr. Chew was never called in question. All imputations damaging to the character of Mr. Chew were therefore withdrawn, and the action came to a close.

THE BELFAST "MORTARA CASE."—There is in Belfast a Mrs. Magee, a Catholic widow, with a daughter Margaret, born in September, 1846; and there is also, in the same city, a well-known Presbyterian minister, the Rev. Mr. Hanna. A month or more ago, Mrs. Magee, whose husband was also a Catholic, saw her child, whom she had missed, coming out of Mr. Hanna's house, with a Bible in her hand. The girl refused to go with her mother, but was sent home next morning. Again she was missing, and was found at the house of Mr. Hanna, who said she should return to her mother's on condition that she were permitted to go to the meeting-house. Mrs. Magee declined entering into any compact, and proceeded by *habeas corpus* for the recovery of her daughter. On Monday week, the case came before the Chief Justice of the Dublin Court of Queen's Bench, the girl and her mother being present, and the former expressing her willingness to return home, if she were allowed to go to the Presbyterian chapel. Mrs. Magee, however, would not agree to this, but required possession of her child, that she might be brought up in the faith of her parents. A controversy arose whether or not the girl was old enough to decide for herself; and the case was adjourned. On Friday it was resumed. It appears from the report, that the mother of the girl made an erroneous representation on this subject—namely, that her child was a year younger than her real age. The Lord Chief Justice decided, however, that, as the girl was within eleven days of being fourteen years of age, she should, in the meantime, be restored to her mother; and that, after the expiration of that time—on the 23rd of this month—the mother should produce her before himself.

Miscellaneous News.

EXECUTION AT DURHAM.—John Wilthew, who on the 19th of last month, deliberately murdered his wife while she was asleep, was executed at Durham, on Thursday.

COTTAGES FOR LABOURERS ON ENTAILED ESTATES.—A bill has been prepared and brought into Parliament by Mr. W. Ewart, Mr. Dunlop, and Mr. Black, "to facilitate the erection of cottages for labourers by the proprietors of entailed estates in Scotland."

THE SPACIOUS DOCKS AT SUNDERLAND.—which have cost about 720,000L, and with which the name of Mr. George Hudson has been so closely associated, have passed into the hand of the River Wear Commissioners, who, in assuming the entire management of the port, have determined upon a considerable reduction of the dock dues.

THE GREAT EASTERN.—It is officially announced that "the Great Eastern will leave this country for Portland, United States, early in the ensuing month, after having made a short trial trip." The English port of departure does not seem to have been yet determined upon. More money is wanted: a special meeting of the shareholders is called for the 20th inst. to authorise the issue of the 30,000 shares held in reserve, and to consider the propriety of insuring the ship.

ANECDOTE OF THE NEW PEER.—When railways were in their infancy it was supposed that they would injure the estates through which or near which they ran, and Mr. Labouchere's father received the compensation of 30,000L. for an imaginary detriment to his property of this sort. After his death his son, finding that there was no injury to the estate from the vicinity of the railway, but to the contrary, refunded the 30,000L. For Mr. Labouchere this was no act of virtue. He was as incapable of retaining what he had no claim to, in strict honour, as of changing his nature.

SOCIETY OF FRIENDS' PRIZE ESSAY.—Some time ago prizes were offered for the best essays on the Causes of the Decline in the Society of Friends. The adjudicators were Professor Nichol, the Rev. F. D. Maurice, and the Rev. E. S. Pryce. They report that it has, after careful consideration, been determined that an essay, bearing a motto from the epistle of the York Quarterly Meeting of the year 1855, should receive the first prize; and one bearing the motto *terbum, vita, lux*, the second prize. A degree of hesitation having been expressed by the adjudicators as to the relative place which ought to be assigned to the two successful essays, the donor of the prizes has generously offered to make the second prize equal to the first. The author of the first essay is Mr. J. S. Rowntree, of York; of the second, Mr. Thomas Hancock, of Nottingham.

THE LATE ELECTION DISCLOSURES AT NORWICH.—The respectability of Norwich, scandalised with the disclosures before the late election committee, which led to the unseating of Lord Bury and Mr. Schneider, is occupying itself with the consideration of remedial measures. The Town Council have debated certain resolutions, to the effect that at future elections candidates, with their active and influential supporters, should be called upon to sign a declaration pledging themselves to abstain, both directly and indirectly, from bribery, corrupt and illegal expenditure, and

organised and systematic canvassing. It is proposed that a sort of agreement should be drawn up to this effect on both sides, and that any alleged infraction of the understanding should be referred for adjudication to Mr. Gladstone or Mr. Walpole, by whose decision either party should abide. These resolutions were met with a strong under-current of ridicule and incredulity as to their successful operation, but were nevertheless adopted, and reflect credit on the council, as a kind of protest against improper practices.

THE SATURDAY HALF-HOLIDAY.—It will be satisfactory to the friends of this popular movement to know that, since the period when the application was made by the Early Closing Association to the committee of bankers to suspend business at two o'clock on Saturdays, the cause has made great progress. In addition to the Manchester, Liverpool, Scotch, and other banks who have for some time adopted the Saturday half-holiday, the bankers of Bristol have just fallen into a similar arrangement, as also the wholesale booksellers of Paternoster-row; and on Saturday last the great iron houses in Thames-street gave in their adhesion to the movement, and announced their intention to close henceforth on Saturday at two o'clock. It is also stated that the memorial to the London bankers in favour of this object, which had previously been very numerously signed by merchants and other traders of influence, has received the signatures of a large number of additional leading city firms.

EMPLOYERS AND EMPLOYED.—On Friday last one of those social gatherings took place which tend to foster good feeling between masters and workmen. On that day Messrs. George J. Cockerell and Co., the coal merchants to her Majesty, gave a dinner to the whole of their employees. Early in the day the workmen and their wives were conveyed in the vans of the firm from their wharfs at Blackfriars, Pimlico, and Peckham, to the Crystal Palace, and had ample opportunity for viewing the various works of nature and art gathered in the Palace grounds. At half-past three o'clock the party, numbering in all about 180, sat down to an excellent dinner, provided in the south-wing dining-room, after doing full justice to which about two hours were spent in pleasing social intercourse; during which, the healths of "The Queen" and "The Royal Family" having been drunk with all the honours, a variety of toasts in honour of the different parties present were drunk, the most enthusiastically received of which was that of "Mr. G. J. Cockerell, the generous founder of the feast." After a short time had been spent in promenading the grounds, the party re-assembled, when tea and coffee were served. During the whole day the behaviour of the men was admirable, and the whole party returned home without one single act that would call for an expression of regret having occurred.

MR. W. CHAMBERS'S GIFT TO PEEBLES.—Mr. William Chambers has given the people of Peebles, his native town, a hall containing museums and a library well-stocked with books. On Monday, it was inaugurated in the presence of many ladies and gentlemen of local distinction. Dr. Guthrie presided over the religious ceremonials which Mr. William Chambers desired should precede the opening of the institution. In a subsequent and secular discourse, he said:—

This hall—these rooms—these museums—that noble library—are, as you are all aware, the munificent gift of Mr. William Chambers to his native town—a munificent gift he has in his generosity and philanthropy, at the cost I may say of a fortune, bestowed upon this town and neighbourhood. I hold it to be a Bible rule—and it would be a wretched prudery instead of prudence were it to be otherwise—to give honour to whom honour is due; and I have no hesitation in saying for myself, and I believe I have the sympathy of this audience, and the thousands and tens of thousands beyond this hall, when I say I honour the man that can make such a noble use of the means and the blessings which Divine Providence has bestowed upon him. I would to God there were more such men in our country! Men may estimate the money that this noble edifice has cost Mr. Chambers, but no man can estimate the good that it may do with its library and the means of knowledge—divine and human, sacred and secular—in this age; and if that man is worthy of honour who even opens a public fountain in a city with its sparkling, bright, and healthful waters to refresh the thirsty and wean the young from the temptations of the tavern, how much more honour is that man worthy of who opens a fountain of pure and heavenly knowledge to the present generation and the generation to come! In this money-seeking age I will keep my plaudits for the man, not who makes money, but who makes right and noble use of it. It is far easier to get money and keep it stagnant as putrid water than to send it to irrigate and bless the earth.

NEW POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION.—A public meeting with reference to a proposed new Polytechnic Institution was held at Willis's Rooms, on Friday afternoon, for the purpose of considering the best means to be adopted for promoting the formation of a new Company, with a view to continue the advantages of so valuable a place of popular instruction and amusement, which the public have hitherto enjoyed in the old Institution, now about to be closed. The chair was taken by the Earl of Shaftesbury. The Rev. J. B. Owen then read the prospectus, which stated that it was proposed to raise a capital of 20,000*l.* in 2,000 shares of 10*l.* He further announced that they had shares subscribed to the number of 394, and donations to the amount of 263*l.* It was stated in the course of the proceedings that 429 shares had been taken, realising 4,290*l.*, and that the donations amounted to 345*l.*, making a total of 4,635*l.* In addition to dividends on capital, it is proposed that holders of shares shall be entitled to free admission to all lectures and exhibitions, in

different proportions. The Earl of Shaftesbury, in the course of his opening speech, said:—

He was sure that if they offered to the working people those advantages which the old Polytechnic did, and which the new Polytechnic promised, they would be found far more attractive to them than the pleasures which led only to their ruin and degradation. (Hear, hear.) It was useless to say to the working classes, "Here are chapels and good books; go home, lock yourselves up in your rooms, and read them;" for if they did not provide recreation for the people, they plainly told them they had no imaginative faculty, while, in fact, the working classes possessed that faculty in a very strong degree. They must then give them wholesome and nutritious matter to feed upon, or else their imagination will feed upon food that was neither good, wholesome, nor nutritious. The present time was more dangerous than any within his recollection. They might go into all parts of London at the worst hours of the night, and they would not see the sights that formerly might be seen in open day—sights which would drive them from the locality with horror. All these were now clothed with decency, but in their place there was every allurement to lead them from their homes, and draw them into extravagant expenditure, immorality, and every vice that could be feared. It was, therefore, their duty to keep them out of these temptations, and to give them that wholesome food for the mind which would improve their intellect, and add to the number of the great, wise, and good men of the country. He did from the bottom of his heart recommend to them the support of this institution, and if it produced but a tithe of the benefits that were mentioned in the prospectus that had been read, no one would have to regret the trouble or the expense they had gone to in forming that Institution. (Loud and prolonged cheering.)

Mr. Robert Hanbury, in moving the first resolution, said that when they found that between 60,000 and 70,000 working men were in the habit of attending the lectures given at the Polytechnic Institution, it was clear the necessity for such an Institution was made manifest. The meeting was subsequently addressed by Mr. Haldane, Lord Raynham, Mr. J. Payne, Mr. Harwood, Mr. J. Gurney, and Mr. C. Mayhew.

Literature.

What is Revelation? A Series of Sermons on the Epiphany; to which are added Letters to a Student of Theology on the Bampton Lectures of Mr. Mansel. By the Rev. F. D. MAURICE, M.A., Chaplain of Lincoln's Inn. Cambridge: Macmillan.

THOSE who are familiar with the cast of Mr. Maurice's thinking on Christian life and experience, and who know what importance will be attached to any expression of his convictions by a tolerably numerous circle of those who acknowledge themselves to be under obligations to him for spiritual guidance and help, will not have been taken by surprise by the announcement of the book whose title we have given above. No two minds could be more antagonistic than those of Mr. Mansel and Mr. Maurice. Mr. Mansel, pre-eminently the logician, and exceedingly adroit in manipulating definitions and notions, is content apparently if he succeed in mapping out the field of human thought, and ascertaining the legitimate whereabouts of the different questions that may emerge. Here, he tells us, is the region of distinct conceptions; where the processes of reasoning are legitimate, and the intellect adequate to the grasp of the objects which meet it. Beyond is the region of the Infinite and Absolute—of which we can have no conception, and which therefore it is presumption to aspire to know; where the reason, the understanding, the moral judgment, "dash themselves to splinters on the hard, stern granite of the Inconceivable"; where all those lights which most we prized in the other, do but the better reveal the darkness; nay, even seem to have exchanged their clear, heaven-borrowed radiance for a fitful misleading glare. The only safety lies in knowing the limitations of our own thought, and determining to which of these two regions our questionings and doubts belong. We shall then reason where reason is competent, and where it is not, shall content ourselves with knowing that we are but submitting to the inevitable conditions of human thought.

Mr. Maurice has no sympathy with this mode of dealing with the problems of religion and morals. He has laid himself open to charges of confused thinking, Platonism, Mysticism; but about the last charge which one would be disposed to make against him would be that of being too much of a logician. We wish he were something more of one. It would make it easier than it is now to come to close quarters with him, and fairly grasp his meaning; it would perhaps expose to him incoherencies in his own thought; and in the work before us, it would certainly have tended to secure him against confounding as he has done different aspects of terms upon which the controversy into which he has thrown himself in great measure depends. Not less vividly conscious than Mr. Mansel of the difficulties of human speculation, Mr. Maurice has been driven by a more idealising intellect and an impulsive heart, to a different intellectual bulwark of faith from that to which the author of the Bampton Lectures points us. Instead of insisting on the inevitably negative

aspect of truth, Mr. Maurice would have us press firm those clear, positive points in which we come into contact with her Divine form. The earthly love, knowledge, pity, wrath,—what are they but shadows of that which is eternal? By virtue of their coming from the Eternal have they any significance for us at all. It is the earthly knowledge that is unreal, if aught be unreal, not the heavenly. It is the human love, the human wrath, that is fitful and unintelligible; it is the Divine on which alone the soul can rest with satisfaction. Let us not seek, he would say, to banish further into the region of the Inconceivable these eternal verities. Let us be convinced that the "Life indeed" is more real than that which here we call life; the bread which cometh down from heaven more real than that of which our bodies partake and die, and which we call our "daily bread." Let us enter into the direct fruition of the Divine knowledge.

To one clinging so intensely to the necessity of this real apprehension of spiritual truth, we can well understand Mr. Mansel's Lectures may have given a painful shock. Mr. Maurice shall state for himself the way in which he was impressed by certain parts of them, as well as his object in writing this volume:—

"Nothing has brought back [my undergraduate years] so vividly as reading the latter part of Mr. Mansel's second Lecture. I listened to many sermons in St. Mary's, when I was at Oxford, which chilled my heart. I think, if I had heard that one, it would have turned my brain. I do not think it would have made me a sceptic, for I fancy I had met with most of the statements about the Absolute, the Infinite, and the Cause, in the pages of different sophists, or that they had been presented to my own mind. That which would have utterly bewildered me would have been to hear them reproduced in a Christian pulpit as a defence of Christianity. I hope I should have profited by the preacher's last words. I hope I should have said, 'Lord, to whom shall I go when thy servants consider it their business to uphold thy cause by proving to us that there is nothing around, beneath, above, but confusion and darkness?' I hope I should have said, 'Thou hast the words of Eternal life,' though we are told that the Eternal lies at a hopeless distance from us, that we can have no true fellowship with it.' But I might have said, 'If that is true, what Lord is there to whom we can go? Where is he? What have I to do with him?' It is because I feel painfully convinced that many who heard and who read Mr. Mansel's sermon will say this; that the argument which he looks upon as so conclusive that it must shatter every form of unbelief, is likely to shatter the feeble faith which it finds, and to bewilder the more earnest faith; it is because everything in the circumstances and temptations of those who sat in the galleries when this Lecture was delivered, is likely to make it more mischievous to them than it would be to those of any other class or age,—it is therefore that I undertake the task—which, when I am right-minded, is very disagreeable, which I tremble at most when it becomes at all pleasant—of pointing out why I look upon the whole course of his argument upon this subject as worthless for its professed object of exposing either Rationalists or Pantheists, and as utterly mischievous if it is supposed to be a mode of removing objections to the Bible. (Letter VI. pp. 262, 263.)"

But we are happy to believe that the chasm between Mr. Maurice and the antagonist whom he has chosen is far less wide than he imagines. We doubt not that the faith, the obedience, the knowledge of Christ and of God, which Mr. Mansel recognises, are substantially the same as those in which Mr. Maurice believes the essence of religious life to lie. Mr. Mansel would, we are sure, feel as little satisfaction in a creed consisting of mere negations of the finite as Mr. Maurice himself, or any other evangelical theologian. Mr. Maurice, in fact, is continually confounding the position of Mr. Mansel as lecturer on a particular subject, and Mr. Mansel as a Christian man and a directly religious teacher. He forgets perpetually that in these lectures there is no pretension to an exposition of Christian doctrine, but simply an indication of a criterion under the operation of which all speculation on religious subjects must be brought; a criterion which, if valid at all, must inevitably be so for all unassisted operation of the human intellect upon things which impinge upon the Divine and the Infinite. It might not be very difficult to show that the line separating questions of the Finite and the Infinite is one which belongs far more to the defined territory of the dealer in terms and notions than to that of fact; that there is no question of experience which will not be found in some perfectly appreciable manner to be entangled with the Inconceivable; but we are not proposing to do this here; we rather wish to point out the confusion into which Mr. Maurice seems to have fallen, and the consequent unreasonableness of some of his complaints. Thus for example, having quoted from the Bampton Lectures a paragraph in which certain canvassings of the "revealed doctrine of the Atonement" are brought forward by way of illustrating the kind of speculation which the author regards as foreclosed by the considerations which he has been developing, Mr. Maurice makes the following observations:—

"One remark respecting this passage will strike you immediately. It is the foundation of ten notes, condemning a large portion of those writers whose names I have given you already. And yet the lecturer does not waste even a single line in telling us what 'that

revealed doctrine of Christ's Atonement for the sins of men' is, which they have assailed and defended. . . . A number of actual men, living or dead, are held up as examples of mischievous Dogmatism or mischievous Rationalism for their way of attacking or maintaining it. Of all outrages upon philosophical method, and upon ordinary English justice, which are to be found in our literature, I believe this is the most flagrant. Mr. Mansel must have had a very strong suspicion that if he had stated the 'revealed doctrine of the Atonement' according to his notion of it, a number of the most earnest, the most confessedly orthodox and evangelical clergymen in England would have said either, 'We do not accept it in that sense'; or 'That method of setting it forth does not satisfy us'; or, 'Such an explanation may do very well for the schools, but it is not the doctrine we preach in our pulpits to sinners.' It was therefore convenient to leave the whole subject in vagueness. In virtue of that vagueness he is able to deal his blows right and left; he can at least frighten his readers with the belief that there is something which they ought to eschew, though he is unable or unwilling to tell them what they should embrace. But, however convenient this course may be to a University Doctor, it is not convenient, it is not right, for those who believe that they are actually entrusted with a Gospel, and who must give account to God for the way in which they discharge their trust. We must be able to say what we mean when we declare that 'God was in Christ reconciling the world to Himself, not imputing their trespasses unto them; and that He has committed to us the word of reconciliation.' It cannot be our chief business to find out what mistakes men have made in arguing about our message on one side or the other. What is the message itself? That must be our question. From whom does it come? To whom is it addressed? That it is a message of peace from a Father to His children; that that Father is a righteous Father, and that the children have been unrighteous because they have been separated from Him; that the peace is made in the body and blood of a righteous Son, one with the Father, who has given Himself for men; that the peace is carried home to men's hearts by a righteous and reconciling Spirit—is this heterodox doctrine? Because if it is, it is what I mean, so help me God, to live and die in declaring to those among whom I minister; what I am ashamed that I have declared so little and with so cold a heart; what I hold as the mightiest power to reform and renew human society. This is what I understand by the doctrine of the Atonement; this is what I believe Saints and Martyrs understood by it. In it, I hold, is revealed the goodness and truth and long-suffering of God." (pp. 202-205.)

Is there need for all this indignation? this fervid confession? this pious adoration? Is it possible that Mr. Maurice can think the lecturer was bound then and there to give an explicit development of the doctrine of the Atonement, simply because it fell within the scope of his argument to show that certain modes of reasoning for or against certain expositions if it were contrary to the fundamental canon which he was insisting upon? We are not now discussing the statement which Mr. Maurice has given us as expressing his own views on the subject, and of which he asks, with so much vehemence, "Is this heterodox doctrine?" All we need say is, that, orthodox or heterodox, Mr. Mansel's argument leaves him as completely undisturbed in it as the authors of any other formularies or symbols whatever in theirs,—so long as he is content to hold it on the faith of Scripture, and not to give the reasons, intellectual or moral, on the strength of which he has been led to prefer this particular enunciation of it. Again, what can be more beside the mark than the following appeal:—"I beseech you dwell most upon that which concerns you most! Consider whether these 'intellectual abstractions' can ever be the ground for your Gospel—ever the defence of your Bible? Is not your Gospel a message concerning the Infinite, the Absolute, the Eternal?" (p. 280.) Or this again:—"Do our doctors confess Jesus Christ to be the perfect manifestation of God? Do they admit that he came into the world in very deed to show them the Father?"

Alas! in the very highest quarters of English theology we are taught a doctrine the very reverse of this. The only way, we are told, to confute Rationalism, to establish Christianity, is to affirm that God cannot be known; that man is prohibited by his constitution from seeking such knowledge." (pp. 32, 33.) It is scarcely possible for misconception to be more complete than that indicated in these and similar paragraphs. Mr. Mansel would recoil with dismay from the responsibility of assertions such as those here directly or by implication fathered upon him. Nor can we easily understand how his denial of the possibility of the knowledge of God as Infinite and Absolute can have been misunderstood as involving the obliteration of all the various revelations of the Divine Word and the illuminating Spirit. Nothing can be clearer than that the knowledge of which Mr. Mansel speaks is one, and that of Mr. Maurice another. Mr. Mansel is speaking of knowledge which is exhaustive and scientific; Mr. Maurice of that which, however real and practical, yet admits of all possible degrees, and of which the Apostle Paul expressly declares that it is a knowledge *in part*. Only a singular want of logical clearness, or the heat and vehemence of controversy, could allow of this distinction being lost sight of as entertained by Mr. Mansel,—as being in fact the kernel of his argument; nor could anything be more unfair than to apply to the one kind of

knowledge all that may be said of the other. May not Mr. Maurice be fitly referred to a passage of Scripture whose truth we are all of us in the habit of regarding as axiomatic, and which yet is substantially identical with the doctrine he deprecates: "Who by searching can find out God? Who can find out the Almighty to perfection?"

And here we would just notice a characteristic vice in Mr. Maurice's style, which runs through his works, perpetually vexing and annoying even those who read him with sympathy—it is the habit of stating things indirectly and by implication. Perhaps this is his greatest fault as a writer: it at least renders it doubly necessary for the reader to be on his guard, lest ere he be aware, he assent to what if placed directly before him in the form of a proposition, he would, at all events, question, and perhaps, repudiate. The following example may serve to show what we mean. In the first of the Epiphany sermons, after speaking of the manifestations of God in earlier times, he goes on:—"And how is it now, brethren? Are things altogether changed? Have we, as some tell us we have, the Scriptures and the traditions of the Church, either separately or together, as substitutes for the inner manifestation of the Son of God, which the Scriptures and the Church say came to certain wise men through the guiding of a star and to the bulk of the nations through the preaching of the Gospel?" (p. 6.) Would Mr. Maurice venture to throw the implications contained in this sentence into the form of distinct propositions, thus:—"These men" (including, of course, Mr. Mansel specially) "declare that Christians of the present day have no inner manifestation of the Son of God; that such an inner manifestation was indeed granted to men in earlier times through outward signs, as the guiding-star of the Magians, or by the preaching of the Gospel, but that to us the Scriptures and traditions of the Church stand as substitutes for it?" We think, if he had always compelled himself to make statements in this direct and express way, he would have avoided doing much unintentional injustice.

We are not without sympathy with Mr. Maurice in many of his strictures; we think we can understand the irritation with which he has followed the lecturer as he figures his brilliant and perhaps somewhat self-complacent sword-play among the phantoms of an unreal metaphysics, while men with intent intellects and anxious hearts have waited to learn not what they can *not* know, but what they *can*; we deprecate, as strongly as he can, the establishment of such a platform for evangelical faith as is equally fitted to support the fabrics of the most irrational superstition and the most thorough-going scepticism; we regard as particularly mischievous the iteration with which we are called away from that which appeals to the response of the human heart—the *testimonium animæ naturaliter Christianæ* as Tertullian calls it,—which must ever be the deepest ground of Christian evidence, to those dreary inconceivabilities which present no hold to the grasp of intellect or heart; we rejoice in the appearance of Mr. Maurice's book in so far as it is calculated to operate as a corrective to the excessive negationalism of which the recent Bampton Lectures have set the fashion;—yet we cannot but regret that in discussing what is purely a philosophical position, he was not content to assail it as such rather than mix up with his polemic *ad hominem* appeals, vehement outcry against his antagonist for violence done to devout affections and names dear to the Christian world, or insinuations of philosophical indifference.

We must endeavour to give our readers some idea of the plan of the work itself. The seven Sermons on the Epiphany, which open the volume, are devoted to the illustration of the nature of a Divine revelation. It is not, urges Mr. Maurice, an authoritative utterance of certain spiritual truths; it is an *unveiling*, a *manifestation* of the Divine Being: an exposition to us of Him who has all along been unfolding himself in the works outspread before us, and in our own consciousness of Him in whom "we live and move and have our being." This is traced in the illumination of the star-led Magians, to whom the Divine Word was Light, as to "every man that cometh into the world;" in the appearance of the child Jesus among the doctors; in the parables and miracles of Christ; and in the intimation of a Divine ordering of the destinies of all nations with a view to the apprehension of God, which the Apostle Paul delivered at Athens. In these discourses is struck the key-note which rings throughout the entire volume. We are not merely *told* certain things about God, about Eternal Life; we do not merely receive certain regulative principles of action; but God himself is in Christ, and, by all the illumination of which he as the *Word* is the giver, actually unveiled to the eye of the soul. The Word of Life is seen, handled, known. The Eternal Life

itself is lived and enjoyed by faith. All that the Scriptures teach us is but the light streaming from the manifested God, which the soul of man is, by the answering light which he has given it, fitted to receive into itself. Thus the love, the knowledge of God attainable by man, is perfectly analogous to that which we may attain of a friend or a father. Both are necessarily imperfect—a truth which we are quite sure Mr. Maurice would most readily admit, though in relation to the knowledge of God he seems at times to lose sight of it—but both are real and valid, and are the only reasonable and legitimate sources of feeling and action. These appear to be the germinal thoughts which, in the remainder of the book, consisting of a series of Letters to Students in Theology, are more elaborately developed into a polemic against the views expounded in Mr. Mansel's Lectures. The gist of them is, that man has faculties given him whereby he can and must judge of Truth—above all, and not least of all, of Divine and Eternal Truth. Conscience, reason, sympathy, must be our guides, under a higher wisdom, not thwarting, but elevating their action, if anywhere, *here*. If we add to this that we only use these faculties rightly when we use them modestly and humbly, and with lively consciousness of our individual weakness and fallibility, will not the teachings of Mr. Maurice be supplemented by all that is really valuable and practical in the subtle and elaborate lectures of Mr. Mansel?

It is impossible for us to give any adequate idea of the discussions contained in the Letters. We would, however, call attention specially to the Letter (No. 3.) in which Mr. Maurice is considering the place which Butler must take in the body of apologetic Theology. Is not *this* by many understood to be the gist of the argument of the Analogy—"Granted there are difficulties in Revealed Religion; there exist similar difficulties in the Constitution of Nature; you are, therefore, no *worse* off in the one case than in the other; why then complain? The Incarnation and Sacrifice of the Son of God, the revelation of the Second Adam, the descent of the Comforter, do not make the condition of the universe *more dark* than it was before?" We are thankful to Mr. Maurice for his indignant protest against such a perversion of the Butlerian argument as this. *Not more dark?* "Have we not faith," he asks, "to put the Gospel of the Son of Man upon another issue than this?" Dare we not say, "Yes, we beseech you to consider whether this is not the interpretation of the anomalies which you see in the world; whether you are not told here how those anomalies shall be brought to an end; how the law which Butler declared to be latent in the constitution and course of Nature—to be visible in the constitution of man—shall triumph over all that has fought against it?" This is both eloquent and true. There is yet one other consideration which is needful to supplement and complete the argument; not overlooked by Butler doubtless, but very often overlooked by his disciples. There must be faith that the order and constitution of Nature is good, not bad; that it is itself in its pure ideas the expression of the Mind which is and must be supremely good. When we have settled this in our convictions, we shall be prepared to recognise in the revelation of Christ those same ideas realising themselves with a beauty and a perfections of which their lower exhibition seems only a shadow. We shall not recoil from that which Infinite Wisdom has ordained, even though in particular instances its operation may seem dark and severe; but we shall look hopefully to see even these illuminated by the more spiritual and glorious exemplifications of the same principles in the final and utter down-treading of all that is now powerful as evil. Has not the Apostle Paul given us a suggestion of this when he says, "As in Adam all die, even so in Christ shall all be made alive?" The same relations and laws which, when entangled with human imperfection and sin, are weapons fearful for vengeance, become translated and transfigured in the Eternal Kingdom of Christ to the instruments and channels of all blessedness.

For the rest we must refer our readers to the volume itself. We had intended to have extracted some of the passages full of fervid evangelical eloquence, with which it is richly interspersed, but we are prevented by want of space. There will be found ample materials to stimulate Christian faith and earnestness, to quicken and give tenderness to charity, and to vivify conceptions of the "things not seen which are eternal."

Gleanings.

M. Kossuth and family intend returning to England by the autumn.

SENSELESSLY CEEVIL—A case has been reported of a country girl who thought it possible there might be an excess in such scrupulous regard to appearances. On her marriage day the youth to whom she was about to be united said to her in a triumphant

tone, "Weel, Jenny, haven't I been uncoo ceevil?" alluding to the fact that during their whole courtship he had never even given her a kiss. Her quiet reply was, "Ou ay, man, senselessly ceevil."—*Dean Ramsay's Reminiscences*.

QUICKNESS AT THE BAR.—A gentleman on the northern circuit, passing on the rail from town to town, rushed to the bar for bitter beer and a biscuit. "You have plenty of time," said Ganymede in crinoline, repressing the perilous haste with which he took his refreshment:—"you have eight minutes." "Oh," said he, "if I have plenty of time, there's no need to choke myself." "Why, Sir," was the philosophic reply, "there's no need to choke yourself if you haven't time." "Too far North for me, that girl," muttered the Midlander, and vanished. *Gateshead Observer*.

NEWSPAPER EDITORS.—A newspaper editor must, like the poet, be born to his calling, as in the majority of instances no amount of training will fit a person for such a post unless he have a natural taste and aptitude for that description of literary labour; for, although many persons are able to write "leaders" or "literary articles" for a newspaper, few can be entrusted with its editorial control, few can scent out the libel which lurks in almost every communication, few can distinguish the report intended to please the speaker instead of inform the nation, and the letters written to serve private interests instead of public ends; still fewer who can tell at a glance the kind of literary or political material which will promote the circulation of the journal, —in fact, a good editor's great difficulty is not as to what he should put in but what he should keep out of his columns.—*Chambers' Journal*.

LITERARY GOSSIP.—The selling success of the "Idylls of the King" has been even greater than I stated in a former letter. The number of copies sold is above 9,000. Who will say that poetry is ill remunerated nowadays, when I tell you that for the charming poem which appeared in the third number of "Once a Week," and which occupied some two and a half pages of the periodical, Tennyson received 100*l.* And this not for the copyright, but for the right to publish in the pages of "Once a Week" only. The new periodical of Messrs. Smith and Elder, in which Mr. Thackeray is to produce his next serial story, will not appear till January next. Before that time, probably, we may see another new periodical in the field—a monthly magazine—with Messrs. M'Millan for publishers, and Mr. Hughes, the author of "Tom Brown's School Days," for editor.—*London Correspondent of Manchester Guardian*.

LOUIS NAPOLEON'S NERVOUS SHOCKS.—The Paris correspondent of the *Court Journal* states that the celebrated Carthusian nun, Colette, has arrived in Paris to accomplish the cure of an exalted and illustrious personage, who ever since the battle of Solferino, is said to have suffered so intensely from nervous shocks that sleep has entirely abandoned him; and that, consequently, he has been compelled to turn night into day, and by transacting business after midnight, obtains a slight degree of repose at dawn. The form of torture which this distressing disease has taken is that of hallucination of the most impressive kind, nothing less than the most horribile and sickening scenes of the battle being enacted over again each night visibly to the eye—no effect of the imagination, no image of the fevered brain, but all in their brute horror and ghastly carnage. The people here declare that the distress was so great on the first arrival of the illustrious personage that one most deeply interested in his welfare took upon himself to write the story of the case to the Pope, having more faith in the spiritual aid to be afforded by his Holiness than in the physical succour of the whole universe of doctors already called in. The answer sent by his Holiness was borne by Scul Colette in person, and the result of her visit is already visible in the calmed nerves and soothed brain of the illustrious personage, who, although still far from sufficiently recovered to be able to take his hours of repose like the rest of the world, is so much improved as to remain silent during the attacks of the hallucination, instead of telling aloud, and with unconsciously hurried speech, the story of the bloody visions passing before his eyes.

Obituary.

SIR GEORGE THOMAS STAUNTON died on Wednesday at his town residence, No. 17, Devonshire-street, Portland-place. The deceased baronet was born in 1780, and succeeded his father, the first baronet, in 1810. He was President of the Select Committee at Canton, and Commissioner of Embassy to Pekin in 1816. In 1818 he was elected Member for the borough of St. Michael's, which was extinguished by the Reform Bill. For St. Michael's he sat two years. He subsequently sat for Portsmouth. Sir George was the author of a translation of the Penal Code of China, and has written several works, which are held to be authorities on the subject, on our relations with that country. His father, the first baronet, was secretary to Lord Macartney, Governor of Madras, and received his title after the negotiation of the peace with Tippoo Sultan in 1784. He was subsequently Secretary of Legation during Lord Macartney's well-known embassy to China in 1792. With the death of Sir George Staunton the baronetcy becomes extinct.

MR. DANIEL OWEN MADDYN, the well-known author of "Chiefs and Parties," expired on Saturday in Dublin, after a few days' illness, of liver complaint. Mr. Maddyn, who showed considerable shrewdness and ability in the political work above-named, was engaged in magazine literature in connexion chiefly with the Conservative party. He had scarcely attained middle age.

THE LATE REV. HENRY TOLLER.—The late Rev. Henry Toller, whose death it is this week our painful

duty to record, was born at Kettering, in the year 1813, at which town his father was for forty-five years the highly-respected pastor of the Congregational church, now and since the father's death for thirty-eight years under the pastoral care of the Rev. Thomas Toller, eldest brother of our deceased friend. The early education of Mr. H. Toller was received at the Grammar school, at Kettering, then conducted by the late Rev. J. Hogg. Subsequently he was placed under the tuition of Mr. Edward Durham, of College-street Academy, Northampton; and afterwards was for some years with the late Rev. Walter Scott, at Rowell. Here the desire which he had long cherished to enter the ministry became confirmed, and, after anxious deliberation, and acting under the advice of his friends, he removed to the Congregational College, then at Wymondly, and subsequently removed to London, under the designation of "Coward College," after the name of its founder. Here our friend pursued his studies with success, and by the conscientious discharge of all his duties, his manifest piety, and his open-hearted and generous conduct, and true nobility of nature, he secured the high esteem of his tutors, and his fellow-students. About the time that his Collegiate course finished, the pulpit of the Congregational church in this town became vacant. The church and congregation gave him a cordial invitation to become their settled minister. He accepted the invitation and entered upon his stated public engagements here in 1836. From that time to the present he has been the faithful, earnest, consistent, and affectionate minister of this congregation, and every year has witnessed an increasing attachment between the pastor and the people, and his death while yet in the prime of life is a calamity not only to his own congregation, but to the town and neighbourhood. In all the private relations of life, the conduct of Mr. Toller was exemplary. Naturally of a cheerful and lively disposition, his conversation produced cheerfulness in every circle that he entered; while his extensive reading and logical mind rendered him an intelligent and instructive as well as pleasing companion. He was, as is well known, a decided Dissenter; holding that an Established Church was in its very nature contrary to the principles of Christianity, and utterly condemned both by the spirit and letter of the New Testament; and holding these sentiments, it was impossible for a man of his sterling honesty and inflexible love of truth to refrain from declaring his convictions on all suitable occasions. Nor was he less conscientiously and intelligently attached to the Congregational form of Church Government, believing that the principles on which it rests are everywhere sanctioned in the New Testament, and that there is indubitable evidence that this was the model on which the early Churches were founded by the Apostles. But his nature was too noble and his religion too expansive to permit him to confine his Christian sympathies to his own denomination, or to those who held his own views of Scripture truth. In the face of a wealthy Establishment, he could glory in being a Dissenter; and in the face of all denominations, he could glory in being a Congregational Dissenter, because he believed that in these things he was resting on God's Word; but his highest glory was in being a Christian, and he could rejoice unfainedly in the growing piety and zeal of all denominations, all of whom he gladly embraced in his Christian affection, if only they gave proof that they loved the Lord Jesus Christ in sincerity. Few men have exhibited more clearly than did our departed friend, the influence of that charity, which "suffereth long, and is kind; which does not behave itself unseemly; seeth not its own; is not easily provoked; thinketh no evil; rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth." He was an earnest and liberal supporter of Sabbath Schools, Bible, Missionary, and all kindred Societies, and he also was ever ready to promote the temporal welfare of his fellow-creatures. No benevolent object would ever appeal in vain to his sympathy and his aid. Many can testify, that to the full extent of his means—yea, and beyond his means if possible, he was anxious to do good. In this, as in all other respects, it was his constant endeavour to be "an example to his flock." During the last two years Mr. Toller's strength had been gradually failing. At first it was scarcely perceptible even to his friends, but the disease which had commenced made certain though slow inroads. In the early part of the summer of last year, his congregation requested him to abstain from all pastoral duties, and at the same time he was induced to try change of air and scenes. To some extent, these means seemed blest. After an absence from his pulpit of six months, he felt himself strong enough to resume it, and he re-entered upon his public duties with evidently increased earnestness. But he had been reduced very low, and at one period death had appeared very near. This affliction had evidently been sanctified, for he seemed to come forth from it "as gold that is purified." In May last, he was once more compelled to take complete rest. This time there was no rallying. With ebbs and flows, he each week became more infirm, and many felt that the hopes of recovery to which his family and people still fondly clung, had no solid ground on which to rest. Few, if any, apprehended his death to be so near. On Monday night he offered up prayer with his family. This service was with difficulty performed, and very shortly afterwards his breathing became more difficult, until on Tuesday morning, the 9th inst., he fell into the long sleep of death, in the 47th year of his age, and the 24th year of his ministry.—*Abridged from the Market Harborough Advertiser*.

BIRTHS.

WILLIAMS.—March 28, at Turanga, New Zealand, the wife of the Rev. W. L. Williams, of a daughter.
LEATHAM.—August 9, at Heath House, near Wakefield, the wife of E. A. Leatham, Esq., M.P., of a son.
KELSEY.—August 10, at Mare-street, Hackney, the wife of John Kelsey, jun., Esq., of a son.
STEPHENS.—August 11, at Russell-villa, Malvern-road, Dalston, Mrs. Horatio Stephens, of a daughter.
MIALL.—August 16, at 7, Hargrave Park-road, Upper Holloway, Mrs. Charles Miall, of a daughter.
GREEN.—August 16, at Walworth, Mrs. Benjamin L. Green, of a son.

MARRIAGES.

BRADBURN-BAKER.—August 2, at the Salem Chapel, York, by the Rev. Thomas Pottenger, Mr. John Bradburn, to Rachel, youngest daughter of the late Mr. James Baker, R.E.
NETTLETON-HARDCASTLE.—August 7, at Hartwith Chapel, near Ripley, by the Rev. J. E. Robson, Mr. Edward Nettleton, to Miss Sarah Ann Hardcastle, both of Hartwith.

HITCHENS-BULGIN.—August 9, at the Independent Chapel, Bradford-on-Avon, by the Rev. Patrick Morrison, the Rev. J. Hiles Hitchens, minister of the Congregational Church, Peckham Rye, London, to Anna, only daughter of Robert Bulgin, Esq.

WILSON-GALBRAITH.—August 10, at Park-terrace, Stirring, N.B., by the Rev. Alex. Beith, D.D., Alexander Wilson, jun., Esq., Bannockburn, to Helen Pearson, youngest daughter of William Galbraith, Esq., of Blackhouse.

FRICKETT-BIRTWISTLE.—August 10, at the Baptist Chapel, Sunnyside, by the Rev. A. Nichols, Mr. John Frickett, farmer, Fairbanks, to Susannah, daughter of Mr. James Birtwistle, Goodshaw Fold, near Rawtenstall, Lancashire.

HALFOUR-JOWITT.—August 11, at the parish church, Leeds, by the Rev. J. H. Jowitt, M.A., brother of the bride, George Edmund Halfour, Esq., of Manchester, to Marianna, younger daughter of John Jowitt, Esq., of Leeds.

BRICE-ARMSTRONG.—August 11, Mr. John Brice, of Northampton, to Miss M. B. Armstrong, of Wootton, Beds.

SARGEANT-READ.—August 13, at Mare-street Chapel, Hackney, by the Rev. William Woodhouse, Mr. Alfred Frank Sargeant, of Ratcliff, and Rodney-terrace, Bow, eldest son of Samuel Sargeant, Esq., of Commercial-road, East, to Harriet, second daughter of George Read, Esq., of Lingfield-house, Hackney.

DEATHS.

SYKES.—May 19, at the London Missionary Society's Station, Kurruwan, South Africa, Mary, the wife of the Rev. William Sykes, Missionary to Moselekate, South Africa.

MILWARD.—July 19, at Freetown, Sierra Leone, of colonial fever, the Rev. John Milward, of the Church Missionary Society, and head master of the Grammar School in that place.—Also, July 18, at the same place, and of the same disease, Mrs. Milward, wife of the Rev. John Milward.

CLOWES.—August 3, at his residence, Dublin, deeply and deservedly regretted by his family and friends, Mr. Alfred Clowes, army contractor of that city, son of the late Edward Clowes, Esq., of Yarmouth, Norfolk.—"Rejoicing in hope."

WIGNEY.—August 7, at the residence of her son-in-law, the Rev. W. B. Robinson, Eastbourne, Sussex, Ann, the widow of William Wigney, Esq., formerly of Brighton. She would have completed her one hundredth year on the 8th of September next.

GRIBBLE.—August 8, at Ryde, aged twenty-four, Elizabeth Mary, the beloved wife of Charles R. Gribble, Esq., of 22, Spencer-villas, Putney.

TOLLER.—August 9, at Market Harborough, the Rev. Henry Toller, in the forty-seventh year of his age.

STAUNTON.—August 10, at 17, Devonshire-street, Portman-square, in the seventy-ninth year of his age, Sir George Thomas Staunton, Bart.

SWAINSON.—August 10, at Eastbourne, Ethel, the infant daughter of William Swainson, Esq., of Carlton-hill, Upper Holloway.

SLADE.—August 13, at Monty's Court, General Sir John Slade, Bart.

Money Market and Commercial Intelligence.

CITY, Tuesday Evening.

The Money Market is in rather an inactive state. On Saturday, the simultaneous issue of the Indian and Russian loans had an unfavourable effect on the funds, but the actual reduction in the price of Consols did not exceed 1*16* to $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. On Monday a shade lower than on Saturday. The transactions were upon a limited scale, and presented no feature of interest. To-day, the market is much firmer for public securities, and foreign stocks, as well as railway shares, also exhibit a buoyant tendency. The attention of the members is principally occupied with the liquidation of the half-monthly account in foreign stocks and railway securities. Consols rose from 95*1* to 95*2* buyers, and they are exceedingly firm, at a rise of $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. A corresponding advance has taken place in the New Threes and the Reduced.

The prospectuses of the Russian and Indian loans were issued late on Friday evening. The former is a 3 per cent. loan of 12,000,000*l.* The price fixed is 68 per cent., but as the final instalment does not fall due until the 25th January next, whilst a whole half-year's dividend will be receivable on the 1st of November, the price to the subscriber is reduced to about 66*1* per cent., independent of the allowance of 3 per cent. discount on payments in advance. The preliminary deposit is fixed at 3 per cent., and the total deposit, due the 30th inst., at 15 per cent. The loan is announced through Messrs. Thomson, Bonar, and Co., of London and St. Petersburg—one of the oldest mercantile firms in Europe.

The Loan is quoted at small premium, $\frac{1}{2}$ to 1 per cent. The new 5,000,000*l.* Indian loan is to be raised in a 5 per cent. per cent. stock, the dividends on which will be payable at the Bank of England, where also the transfers will be made, free of stamp duty. The preliminary deposit is limited to 2 per cent., and the whole five millions is to be liquidated in four months, being at the rate of 1,250,000*l.* per month. It is estimated that about 98 will be the quotation generally offered for the new 5 per cent. Indian Stock. Tenders are to be sent in by the 23rd, being two business days after the closing of the Russian Loan list. The Stock Exchange name mentioned in the prospectus is that of Mr. Henry Scott.

In the Foreign Stock Market business is rather more active, and prices are all higher.

A rather limited amount of business has been transacted in the Railway Share Market; prices, however, have shown more firmness. Caledonians have improved to 82*1* 83*1*. Eastern Counties to 57*1* 57*1*. South Westerns to 91*1*, ex div. Midlands to 105*1*; and South Easterns to 74*1* 74*1*. Great Westerns have declined to 58*1* 58*1*, ex div. Lancashire and Yorkshire to 95*1*; and Brighton to 109*1* and 109*1*. The Foreign and Colonial undertakings are very inactive. Eastern of France are dealt in at 25*1*. Lombardo-Venetian New Shares

10 $\frac{1}{4}$; and Western and North Western of France, 22 to 22 $\frac{1}{4}$. East Indian have improved to 99 $\frac{1}{2}$; Grand Trunk of Canada to 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ 34 $\frac{1}{2}$; and Great Indian Peninsula declined to 97 $\frac{1}{4}$.

Joint Stock Bank and Miscellaneous Shares show less firmness.

PROGRESS OF THE STOCKS DURING THE WEEK.

	Wed.	Thurs.	Fri.	Sat.	Mon.	Tues.
\$ per C ^t Consols	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	92 $\frac{1}{2}$	95	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	94 $\frac{1}{2}$
Consols for Ac-						
count	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
\$ per Cent. Red.	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
New 3 per Cent.						
Annuities ..	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$	95 $\frac{1}{2}$
India Stock ..	221	219	—	—	218	221
Bank Stock . . .	223 22	—	223 $\frac{1}{2}$	—	223 $\frac{1}{2}$	224
Exchequer-bills .	25 pm	24 pm	23 pm	23 pm	23	—
Bonds	— dis	— dis	5 dis	— dis	7 dis	—
Long Annuities ..	—	—	—	—	—	—

THE ROYAL INSURANCE COMPANY.—When we consider the number of Insurance Companies which have been brought into a short-lived existence within the last few years, many of which have either transferred their business to, or amalgamated with, others, and, sad to relate for the unfortunate shareholders, too many now winding up in Chancery, it is gratifying to record the transactions of one of the most successful assurance institutions in the United Kingdom. The report of the Royal Insurance Company which was adopted at the annual meeting on the 5th inst., states that in the Fire department the premiums received in the year 1858 were 196,148L, having increased in three years above 50 per cent. The profit for the year appears very satisfactory, notwithstanding the claims from the extensive fires at St. Katharine and London Docks, at Fresh Wharf, and at Valparaiso, the amount standing to the credit of Profit and Loss account being no less a sum than £9,020. A dividend of 8s. per share, and a bonus of 4s. per share, together 7s., was declared free of income tax, equal to 17 $\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. on the original amount of capital paid up. The sum of 30,000L was carried to the reserve fund, which now exceeds 140,000L. The Life department also exhibits a considerable increase of business. The number of new policies issued in the year was 832, the sum assured 387,752L, upon which premiums were received amounting to 12,545L. In the year 1848 the number of policies issued was 98, when the new premiums received amounted to 1,890L only, showing a rapid extension during the last ten years. It is our pleasure to add, from the remarks of the Directors at the meeting, that this augmentation in both departments does not arise from the absorption or purchase of the business of several of the defunct insurance companies, but purely from its own extensive connexions. And equally gratifying is it to announce that the success of this Company is chiefly attributed to the ability and unremitting zeal of Mr. Percy M. Dove, the manager, aided by a valuable board, and an efficient staff of officers.

"The high repute which Mr. Benson has obtained for the qualities of his manufacture stands second to none."—Morning Advertiser. Benson's Lady's Gold Watch, at 5 to 30 guineas.—"Exquisite artistic feeling in ornamentation, and perfection of mechanism in structure."—Morning Post. Benson's Gentleman's Gold Watch, at 6 to 50 guineas.—"All that can be desired in finish, taste, and design."—Globe. Benson's Silver Lever Watches, at 4 to 20 guineas.—"Leave nothing to be desired but the money to buy them with."—Standard. Benson's Silver Horizontal Watch, at 2 to 8 guineas.—"A good watch without paying an exorbitant price."—Daily Telegraph. Each watch warranted, and sent free to any part of England, Scotland, Ireland, or Wales, on receipt of a remittance addressed to James W. Benson, at the manufacture, 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, London. Established 1749.

A HIGHLY RESPECTABLE LADY, having been restored to health from incipient consumption, with nervousness, and other serious internal disorders, by simple means, and knowing many other ladies restored by the same treatment from various diseases of the most alarming kind, who are also willing to bear testimony, induces her with pleasure to forward to the afflicted information of the treatment on receipt of two stamps and a stamped directed envelope, to pre-pay postage, addressed to Mrs. Morrison, 11, Walpole-street, Chelsea.

[ADVERTISEMENT.]—HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—DIPHTHERIA, SORE THROAT, GLANDULAR SWELLINGS.—Some twenty years ago, Diphtheria raged in Paris to an alarming extent, and in Boulogne in 1855, its presence produced consternation by the desolation it left in its track, and gained the appellation of the "Egyptian Pestilence." Diphtheria is a variety of typhoid fever, perfectly under curative control by Holloway's Ointment and Pills, which assuage the fever, diminish the thirst, disperse swollen glands, prevent inflammation in the throat, and speedily heal the hazardous ulcerations on the tonsils which always accompany the complaint. Various are the remote causes of this pestilence, but impure blood directly produces it. Thus Holloway's preparations, by filtering everything deleterious from that vital fluid, ward off the disease.

Mr. J. W. Benson, of 33 and 34, Ludgate-hill, has just published a new illustrated pamphlet on watches (free by post for two stamps). It should be read by all who are about buying a watch, as it contains prices and important information as to what watch to buy! where to buy it! and how to use it!

The Gazette.

BANK OF ENGLAND.

(From Friday's Gazette.)

An Account pursuant to the Act 7th and 8th of Vict., cap. 32, for the week ending on Wednesday, August 10, 1859.

ISSUE DEPARTMENT.

Notes issued	£31,119,600	Government Debt £11,015,100
		Other Securities .. 3,450,900
		Gold Bullion 16,644,600
		Silver Bullion —

BANKING DEPARTMENT.

Proprietors' Capital £14,555,000	Government Securi-
Rest 3,435,612	ties .. £11,208,572
Public Deposits 5,912,118	Other Securities .. 18,474,568
Other Deposits 14,675,929	Notes .. 9,160,545
Seven Day and other Bills .. 856,319	Gold & Silver Coin £57,288

August 11, 1859.

M. MARSHALL, Chief Cashier.

Friday, August 12, 1859.

BANKRUPTS.

ABACHTINGI, V., Austin Friars, merchant, August 25, September 23.

FREEMAN, J., Blackfriars-road, chemist, August 26, September 23.

BATCHELOR, H., Mark-lane, and Bull Head Wharf Dock, Rotherhithe, chemical manure manufacturer, August 24, October 1.

MAYER, W., Birmingham, grocer, August 22, October 3.

WINGAD, H., Nettleham, Lincolnshire, tailor, August 24, September 21.

HOLDEN, J., Bolton, painter, August 26, September 23.

Tuesday, August 16, 1859.

BANKRUPTS.

CROCKFORD, F., St. James's-street, commission agent, August 26, September 23.

HYDE, W., Liverpool, ship broker, August 26, September 26.

MANHEIM, A., Fore street, Cripplegate, boot and shoe manufacturer, August 26, September 23.

HINCHCLIFFE, A., Sheffield, printer, August 27, October 1.

CUTMORE, J., Ware, Hertfordshire, broker, August 26, September 26.

CLAYTON, J., and LOCKWOOD, B., Rastwick, Yorkshire, silk spinners, August 26, September 23.

PRESLEY, J. W., Laton, Bedfordshire, printer, August 25, September 23.

FRANCE, E., and FRANCE, H., Linthwaite, Yorkshire, woollen manufacturers, August 26, September 23.

PETRA, T., Cambridge, robe-maker, August 26, September 26.

PROVISIONS, Monday, Aug. 15.—The arrivals last week from Ireland were 11,554 barrels butter and 2,008 bales bacon, and from foreign ports, 9,154 casks butter and 1,122 bales bacon. The Irish butter market ruled firm last week, without change in price, and a good business done, chiefly in best brands of Limericks, which were sold freely at 9s. on board. Best Dutch met a good sale, and on Friday's price advanced 2s. per cwt. The bacon market was very quiet; prices the turn in favour of the buyer—say from 6s. to 6s. landed, according to quality, &c., but the shipment being light an improved demand is expected.

COVENT GARDEN, Saturday, Aug. 18.—Grapes and pine-apples fully maintain last week's price. West India pines have been plentiful and good. Gooseberries and currants are getting scarce, and there are no cherries except Morello. English apricots are more abundant. Greenage plums obtain high prices. Oranges fetch 3s. 4d. and 10s. per 100. Good filberts may be had for 3d. per lb. Cabbages and French beans are plentifully supplied. Peas, beans, carrots, and artichokes may be obtained in quantity. Cauliflowers are plentiful. New potatoes realise from 1s. to 1s. 6d. Cucumbers abundant. Cut flowers chiefly consist of Orchids, Gardenias, Kalanchoe, Lily of the Valley, Mignonette, Heaths, and Roses.

HOPS, Monday, Aug. 18.—Two packets of new hops have been to market; one from Kent fetched 8s. 8d. per cwt.; the other from Sussex realised 8s. per cwt.; picking in general, however, will not be very early. The demand for 1858's continues good; a considerable quantity in small parcels are cleared off. The duty is estimated at 25s. 0d.

SEEDS, London, Monday, Aug. 15.—The market for clover-seeds remains unchanged. Higher rates are required for the samples of new white clover offered from Germany, but buyers here hold back, looking for lower rates. New Trifolium is very scarce, and with good demand to-day was noted 2s. to 2s. dearer. Canaryseed, with scanty supply, was noted 2s. dearer.

WOOL, Monday, August 15.—Since this day so'nights, owing to buyers' attention having been chiefly directed to the public sales of colonial, only a limited amount of business has been transacted in all kinds of English wool. However, the market has continued in a healthy state, and prices generally are well supported. The supply on offer is by no means extensive.

METALS, Saturday, Aug. 13.—Scotch pig iron has been in improved request, at 5s. 6d. cash. The exports last week were 12,211 tons, against 12,736 tons in the corresponding week in 1858. Manufactured iron is very firm in price. We have to report an active inquiry for copper, at 110s. 6d. for best selected. Spelter sells at 2s. 6d. on the spot, whilst for lead the inquiry is somewhat active at extreme rates. In tin very little is doing at 14s. to 14s. 6d. for bars, and 14s. to 14s. 6d. for straits. Tin plates have realised very full prices.

TALLOW, Monday, Aug. 15.—The business doing in our market is only moderate, yet prices are well supported. P.Y.C. on the spot is selling at 5s. 6d. for delivery during the last three months, 5s. 9d. to 6s. per cwt. Rough fat, 2s. 1d. per lbs.

OILS, Monday, August 15.—Rape oil is a dull inquiry, at from 3s. to 3s. 6d. Cocoanut is steady, at 3s. to 3s. 6d. Lard oil is selling at 5s. 6d. and tallow at 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. We have a fair demand for linseed oil, at 2s. 9d. on the spot. Olive moves off freely, at 4s. to 5s. 6d.; pale seal, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d.; other sorts, 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d.; fine sperm, 9s. 6d.; and head-matter, 9s. 6d. to 9s. 9d. Spirits of turpentine, 3s. to 3s. 6d. per cwt.

COALS, Monday, Aug. 15.—Market without alteration from former sales. Haswell, 17s.; Lambton's, 16s. 6d.; Hartlepool, 16s. 6d.; Eden, 15s. 6d.; Belmont, 15s.; Tanfield, 15s. 6d.; Hartley's, 14s. 6d.—Fresh arrivals, 8s. left from last day, 14s. total, 23s.

Advertisements.

LEA'S ABERNETHY'S HOOPING COUGH EMULSION.

FROM SIR WILLIAM CUBITT'S NEPHEW.

Sir,—Your medicine cured me in Ten Days, after trying every remedy I heard of without success.

CHARLES HARRISON.

32, Clifton-crescent, Old Kent-road.

Sold by G. Lea, 1a, South-street, Walworth, Surrey, in bottles at 1s. 1d. and 2s. 6d.; and may be ordered of any Medicine Vendor through his agents, Messrs. Barclay, 96, Farringdon-street, London.

N.B.—Numerous references can be given to families who have tested the efficacy of this preparation when every other means have entirely failed.

VALUABLE FAMILY MEDICINES.

FROUD'S COMPOUND HEPATIC PILLS.

An effectual remedy for preventing and removing those distressing diseases to which the STOMACH and LIVER are liable: the symptoms of which are known by the general term of BILIUM COMPLAINTS; when the patient suffers pain in the head, giddiness, drowsiness, dimness of sight, acidity, and pain in the stomach, redness of urine, pains in the back, jaundice, or yellowness of the eyes and skin, &c., also loss of appetite, bitterness, and unpleasant taste in the mouth, flatulence, or wind, heartburn, restlessness in the night, a sense of sinking in the stomach, languor, depression of the spirits, &c. The pills are gentle and pleasant in their operation, require no confinement or alteration of diet, and may be taken with perfect safety by persons from childhood to old age.

The high estimation in which FROUD'S COMPOUND HEPATIC PILLS are held by the public, added to the numerous testimonies the Proprietor is continually receiving of their superior efficacy, justifies him in stating, that persons afflicted with Bilium Complaints, and Disorders of the Stomach and Head, will find in them that relief which they have hitherto sought in vain from other sources.

Prepared only by JAMES FROUD, Chemist, Dorchester.

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THE PROPRIETORS of PERRY'S justly celebrated PATENT MEDICINES have confided their Prescriptions to a Physician of the Royal University of Erlangen, and Member of the Royal College of Surgeons of England (who is registered under the New Medical Act), and attend daily at No. 19, Berners-st

[AUG. 17, 1859.]

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Are the Dental Establishments ofMESSRS. GABRIEL,
THE OLD-ESTABLISHED DENTISTS,Patentees of the system for ensuring perfect Articulation and
Mastication without the impediments usually attendant
upon the ordinary plans.In their IMPROVED MINERAL TEETH and FLEXIBLE
GUMS, there are no Springs or Wires, no extraction of roots;
the fit is of the most unerring accuracy, while, from the
flexibility of the agent employed, pressure upon the gums or
remaining teeth is entirely avoided.It is permanent, wholesome, and congenial to the mouth,
and when in use defies the notice of the closest observer.It is only necessary to see them to be convinced of their
superiority; and unless every satisfaction be given, no fee is
accepted.The best materials are used, which Messrs. GABRIEL are
enabled to supply at prices lower than are usually charged for
common qualities, they having on the premises extensive
laboratories for the manufacture of every speciality apper-
taining to the profession.

CONSULTATION GRATIS.—ESTABLISHED 1804.

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GABRIEL'S TREATISE fully explains the system, and may
be had gratis, or stamped envelope.THE PATENT WHITE ENAMEL, which effectually restores
decayed front teeth, can only be obtained as above.—Observe
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Stopping for decayed Teeth or Toothache, 1s. 6d. per box,
obtainable through any Chemist in town or country, or
direct twenty Stamps."Messrs. G.'s Improvements in Dentistry are really impor-
tant, and will well repay a visit to their establishments."—
Sunday Times, Sept. 6th, 1857.BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.
NEWLY-INVENTED APPLICATION of
PREFARED INDIA-RUBBER in the construction of
Artificial Teeth, Gums, and Palates.MR. EPHRAIM MOSELY,
SURGEON-DENTIST,9, LOWER GROSVENOR-STREET, GROSVENOR-SQUARE,
SOLE INVENTOR AND PATENTEE.A new, original, and invaluable invention, consisting in the
adaptation, with the most absolute perfection and success, of

CHEMICALLY-PREFARED INDIA-RUBBER,

in lieu of the gold or bone frame. The extraordinary results
of this application may be briefly noted in a few of their most
prominent features:—All sharp edges are avoided; no spring wires, or fastenings
are required; a greatly-increased freedom of suction is supplied;
a natural elasticity hitherto wholly unattainable; and a fit,
perfected with the most unerring accuracy, are secured, while,
from the softness and flexibility of the agents employed, the
greatest support is given to the adjoining teeth when loose or
rendered tender by the absorption of the gums.The acids of the mouth exert no agency on the chemically-
prepared India-rubber, and, as it is a non-conductor, fluids of
any temperature may be retained in the mouth, all unpleasant-
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provided against by the peculiar nature of its preparation.Teeth filled with gold, and Mr. Ephraim Moseley's Enamel
Cement, the only stopping that will not become discoloured,
particularly recommended for front teeth.9, GROSVENOR-STREET (W.), LONDON;
14, GAY-STREET, BATH; and
10, ELDON-SQUARE, NEWCASTLE-ON-TYNE.CONDY'S PATENT FLUID,
OR NATURAL DISINFECTANT.Not only deodorizes but disinfects perfectly, and DESTROYS FOR
EVER the cause of infection.Is not poisonous, as it may be used to purify water. Evolves
no noxious or unpleasant gas. Cannot be mistaken for any
other fluid, thereby preventing death and disease, and is therefore
the best, safest, cheapest, and most pleasant disinfectant
ever introduced.This fluid has been examined and reported upon by the
Board of Health, all the most eminent Men and Chemists of
the day, in all cases in the most satisfactory manner possible.The Public are recommended to use this Fluid, properly
diluted with water, frequently and habitually in larders, sculleries,
dairies, musty casks, sick rooms, close places, &c., as it
has numerous advantages, and can be used with certain imme-
diate success and perfect safety.Sold in Quart Bottles, 4s., Pinta, 2s., Half-pinta, 1s., and in
bulk 10s. per Gallon.

Free to Railway on Receipt of Order or Stamps.

RUPTURES.

BY HER MAJESTY'S ROYAL LETTERS PATENT.

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LEVER TRUSS, requiring no steel spring round the
body, is recommended for the following peculiarities and
advantages:—1st. Facility of application; 2nd. Perfect freedom
from liability to chafe or excoriate; 3rd. It may be worn with
equal comfort in any position of the body, by night or day;
4th. It admits of every kind of exercise without the slightest
inconvenience to the wearer, and is perfectly concealed from
observation."We do not hesitate to give to this invention our unqualified
approbation; and we strenuously advise the use of it to all
those who stand in need of that protection, which they cannot
so fully, nor with the same comfort, obtain from any other
apparatus or truss as from that which we have the highest
satisfaction in thus recommending."—Church and State Gazette.Recommended by the following eminent Surgeons:—William
Ferguson, Esq., F.R.S., Professor of Surgery in King's College,
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Bowman, Esq., F.R.S., Assistant-Surgeon to King's College
Hospital; T. Callaway, Esq., Senior Assistant-Surgeon to Guy's
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(which cannot fail to fit) can be forwarded by post, on sending
the circumference of the body, two inches below the hips, to the
Manufacturer.

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Price of a Single Truss, 10s., 21s., 26s. 6d., and 31s. 6d.
Postage, 1s.Price of a Double Truss, 31s. 6d., 42s., and 52s. 6d. Postage,
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Price of an Umbilical Truss, 42s. and 52s. Postage, 1s. 10d.

Post-office Orders to be made payable to John White, Post
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The material of which these are made is recommended
by the faculty as being peculiarly elastic and compressible, and
the best invention for giving efficient and permanent support
in all cases of WEAKNESS, and swelling of the LEGS, VARICOSE
VEINS, SPRAINS, &c. It is porous, light in texture,
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PRIMROSE SOAP is the most economical and best
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cautioned to observe that the name and address, "John
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in Domestic circles respecting HARPER TWELVETREES' PATENT SOAP POWDER is daily increasing! All
who have tried it are perfectly delighted with the astonishing
saving of time, trouble, labour, money, firing soap, "tongue
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what is going on. It saves fifty per cent. in its use, besides all
the wear and tear from the usual mode of hand-rubbing,
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All who study Household Economy, and are desirous of pro-
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PENNY PACKET is equal to NINE EGGS!!!"My wife is delighted with it, she never before used any
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Preparation is most superior. We find it the most econo-
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COLOUR.—Neuralgia, Nervous Headache, and Rheuma-tism, cured by F. M. HERRING'S PATENT MAGNETIC
COMBS, HAIR and FLESH BRUSHES. They require no
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will forward a detailed account of their symptoms, every advice
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in furs, and every other species of Insect in all stages of meta-
morphosis. Sportsmen will find this an invaluable remedy for
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It is perfectly harmless in its nature, and may be applied without
any apprehension, as it has no qualities deleterious to animal life.—Sold in packets, 1s., 2s. 6d., and 4s. 6d., or post
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phical Works refer to the Chains, most of which can be seen
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of cures which can be sent, if required. Price 1s. (Prospectus free.)

Extract No. 20.—PARALYSIS, &c.

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